



国家清史编纂委员会·编译丛刊影印系列

美国政府解密档案（中国关系）

美国驻中国广州领事馆领事报告 (1790—1906)

Despatches from U.S. Consuls in Canton, China,
1790-1906

广西师范大学出版社 组织整理

程焕文 审订

— 11 —



GUANGXI NORMAL UNIVERSITY PRESS

广西师范大学出版社

“十一五”国家重点图书出版规划项目

美国政府解密档案（中国关系）

美国驻中国广州领事馆领事报告 (1790—1906)

Despatches from U.S. Consuls in Canton, China,
1790-1906

广西师范大学出版社 组织整理
程焕文 审订

—• 11 •—



GUANGXI NORMAL UNIVERSITY PRESS

广西师范大学出版社

· 桂林 ·

第十一册目录

序号	胶卷号	原文件号	文件拟目	文件时间	页码
001	M101-9	14	C. Seymour 对于他在第 13 号公文中提到汕头领事代办处的开支计划进行解释,说明采用这一计划的理由	1883-1-25	1
002	M101-9	15	C. Seymour 对汕头领事代办处开支计划的进一步报告,陈述保留翻译和抄写员的理由	1883-1-26	10
003	M101-9	16	C. Seymour 报告广西恩州(Ng Chow)的中国暴民攻击和抢掠传教士。他提供了暴行的详细情节,并报告关于归还或者赔偿遭破坏之财产的初步行动。报告中还提及总督病重以至于不能会见任何外国人	1883-1-26	16
004	M101-9	16bis	C. Seymour 对第 16 号公文的修正	1883-1-26	23
005	M101-9	17	C. Seymour 来信报告汕头领事代办处的情况,并提及美国公民 W. Ashmore 的渔场利益受到中国籍非法侵入者的破坏,这些中国人宣称 Ashmore 不受美国领事馆的保护	1883-2-14	25
006	M101-9	18	C. Seymour 再度请求提供领事馆所需的旗帜、字典和公文	1883-2-14	31
007	M101-9	19	C. Seymour 提交 1883 年第 1 季度的报告和账目	1883-4-7	36
008	M101-9		附件(表格 159):1883 年第 1 季度广州领事馆的公证记录		39
009	M101-9		附件(表格 103):1883 年第 1 季度广州领事馆的事务摘要	1883-3-31	41
010	M101-9	20	C. Seymour 提交汕头领事代办处 1883 年第 1 季度的报告和账目	1883-4-7	42
011	M101-9		附件(表格 15):1883 年第 1 季度汕头领事代办处的船员和水手的详细列表		44
012	M101-9		附件(表格 103):1883 年第 1 季度汕头领事代办处的 事务摘要		45
013	M101-9		G. Nye 致函国务院,希望提取加菲尔德纪念医院(Garfield Memorial Hospital)的捐款	1883-4-20	46
014	M101-9		G. Nye 解释为何要向财政部提取加菲尔德纪念医院的捐款	1883-4-20	47
015	M101-9	21	C. Seymour 表明已经收到国务院的第 11 号公文,报告已就汕头领事代办处的开支问题采取相关行动	1883-4-25	48

016	M101-9	22	C. Seymour 请求提供办公用品、文具和表格等	1883-5-14	51
017	M101-9	23	C. Seymour 请求休假 60 天,并表示若国务院同意授权,将安排副领事在其休假期间负责领事馆事务	1883-5-14	53
018	M101-9	24	C. Seymour 请求提供新的关税法副本,并说明关税法的作用	1883-5-16	36
019	M101-9	25	C. Seymour 报告国务院:尽管广州和香港领事馆联合起来,也无法找到中国发货人的确切地址	1883-5-16	59
020	M101-9	26	C. Seymour 声明关于恩州攻击和抢掠传教士事件的详细报告已经送往公使馆。他还报告中国官员寻找借口拖延对美国传教士提供保护。附寄相关通信和剪报	1883-5-16	62
021	M101-9		附件:广州美国领事与两广总督就恩州暴力事件的通信	1882 至 1883	70
022	M101-9		附件:《德臣报》(<i>The China Mail</i>)有关传教士意见的报导	1883-5-9	72
023	M101-9	27	C. Seymour 表示已经收到 1883 年 4 月 20 日第 14 号公文。应 1 月 9 日和 3 月 23 日的函件的要求,他对租借账目进行了详细的解释	1883-6-15	73
024	M101-9	28	C. Seymour 表示已经收到第 14 号公文并做出了相关答复。他认为汕头领事代办处的费用超支,已经要求领事代办对此作出解释	1883-6-16	88
025	M101-9	29	C. Seymour 表示已经收到第 15、16 号公文和韦伯斯特 (Webster) 词典,接下来将购买威廉斯 (Williams)词典	1883-6-20	91
026	M101-9	30	C. Seymour 表示已经收到第 17 号公文,报告财政部指责他在 Wm. Chas. Von. Boss 的发货单上超额征收费用	1883-6-26	93
027	M101-9		附件:广州的 Carlowitz & Co. 的证明	1883-6-25	96
028	M101-9	31	C. Seymour 对第 14 号公文做进一步的答复。附寄汕头领事代办处的账目凭单	1883-6-27	97
029	M101-9	32	C. Seymour 提交 1883 年第 2 季度的报告和账目	1883-7-14	100
030	M101-9	33	C. Seymour 提交广州及建立了领事代办处的港口的贸易报告	1883-7-31	102
031	M101-9	34	C. Seymour 报告美国公民 J. F. Crowell 之死	1883-8-8	138

032	M101-9	35	C. Seymour 进一步报告 J. F. Crowell 之死的详细情节	1883-8-25	141
033	M101-9	36	C. Seymour 报告广州暴动的情况,分析了暴动的原因,并汇报外国人被抢掠和损坏的财产数目已达到 25 万美元	1883-9-13	144
034	M101-9	37	C. Seymour 提交 1883 年第 3 季度的报告和账目	1883-10-13	153
035	M101-9		附件(表格 159):1883 年第 3 季度广州领事馆的公证记录		156
036	M101-9		附件(表格 103):1883 年第 3 季度广州领事馆的事务摘要	1883-9-30	160
037	M101-9	38	C. Seymour 转送汕头领事代办处 1883 年第 3 季度的报告和账目	1883-10-13	161
038	M101-9	39	C. Seymour 表示已经收到第 21 号公文,希望明年夏天他可以休假	1883-10-20	163
039	M101-9	40	C. Seymour 提交了关于商业贸易体系的报告,并论述了有关“信用”的中国法律和惯例	1883-11-7	165
040	M101-9	41	C. Seymour 报告广州暴动的详细情节,并分析了引起暴动的原因	1883-11-8	171
041	M101-9	17	C. Seymour 等多国领事共同致两广总督信件的副本	1883-8-13	199
042	M101-9	2	C. Seymour 致两广总督信件的副本	1883-9-10	201
043	M101-9		J. A. Tisdall 等多位船长致广州领事信件的副本	1883-9-29	202
044	M101-9		1 幅广州地图		204
045	M101-9	42	C. Seymour 提交截至 1883 年 12 月 31 日的账目和报告副本	1884-1-21	209
046	M101-9		1883 年 12 月—1884 年 12 月关于死于汕头的 J. F. Crowell 的财产处理的几份文件(一式两份之一)	1884-7	211
047	M101-9		表格 87:C. Seymour 签发的 Albert A. Fulton 与 Florence Wichard 的结婚证书	1883-7-26	214
048	M101-9	42 $\frac{1}{2}$	C. Seymour 提交 1883 年第 4 季度的账目和报告	1884-1-21	215
049	M101-9	43	C. Seymour 报告他已任命 Baron Von Seckendorff 为汕头的领事代办,并建议废除北海和海口的领事代办处	1884-1-24	218
050	M101-9	44	C. Seymour 报告中国人向美国移民的增长趋向和对签证中的欺诈行为的调查。附寄显示旅客增长和取消签证的表格	1884-1-31	223

051	M101-9	25	1 个名为林梓材的中国人的护照(中英文各 1 份)	1883-11-2	241
052	M101-9	45	C. Seymour 继其第 44 号公文进一步报告签证中的 欺诈问题。附寄被欺诈使用的护照编号的列表和 他与粤海关监督崇光(Tsung)的相关通信	1884-2-20	243
053	M101-9	AA	C. Seymour 致粤海关监督的信件副本	1884-2-7	251
054	M101-9	BB	C. Seymour 致粤海关监督的信件	1884-2-16	254
055	M101-9	CC	一些中国人护照的担保人的资料	1884-2-20	255
056	M101-9	46	C. Seymour 提交 1884 年第 1 季度的报告和账目	1884-4-15	256
057	M101-9	47	C. Seymour 表示已经收到第 46 号公文。附寄 1883 年第 1 季度和第 3 季度汕头领事代办处的翻 译的工资凭证	1884-4-25	258
058	M101-9	48	C. Seymour 表明已经收到第 45 号公文,并报告对 在广州装船的出口货物所征收的关税	1884-5-12	260
059	M101-9		附件:出口货物关税表	1884-5-12	270
060	M101-9	49	C. Seymour 报告:希望 Gideon Nye 留任广州副领 事。Baron Von Seckendorff 正担任汕头领事代办, 并已获批准。Thomas Watters(英国领事)正担任 Kiung chow 的领事代办,且是唯一有资格的人。 唯一有资格担任北海领事代办的人是 Octavim Johnson(英国领事)。另外,他还建议废止琼州和 北海的领事代办处	1884-5-13	273
061	M101-9	50	C. Seymour 答复 1884 年 2 月 15 日的函件,并提交 广州的劳工价值报告	1884-6-9	281
062	M101-9	51	C. Seymour 提交截至 1884 年 6 月 30 日的账目和 报告	1884-7-11	287
063	M101-9		表格 87:Nye 签发的 Francis Williams Damon 和 Mary Rebecca Happer 的结婚证书	1884-5-1	289
064	M101-9	52	C. Seymour 解释因调查广州和香港的中国旅客的 护照而带来的费用的账目,并转送国务院第 51 号 公文所要求的报告	1884-9-27	290
065	M101-9		C. Seymour 所用开支的报告	1884-3-31	297
066	M101-10	54	C. Seymour 表示已经收到第 48 号公文并做出答 复,他声明 Edwin 是现任汕头领事代办 Baron Von Seckendorff 的名字,而他通常的签名是“Baron Von Seckendorff”	1884-10-15	298

067	M101-10	55	C. Seymour 转送关于商业行会的报告	1884-10-15	300
068	M101-10	56	C. Seymour 报告了棉织业的情况。附寄两个在中国出售的英国的棉花条播机样本,并提议它们应被送往新奥尔良的展览会	1884-11-19	303
069	M101-10	57	C. Seymour 表示已经收到法令副本和相关的函件。他指出“解释文件”并没有清除关于法令含义的疑问,而 9 月 20 日的指令是他所看到的第 1 个对此清晰而权威的陈述	1884-11-24	306
070	M101-10	58	C. Seymour 表示收到关于新奥尔良博览会的通知,报告来自广东和华南的中国展品正在前往新奥尔良的路上	1884-11-25	309
071	M101-10	59	C. Seymour 表示已经收到截至 1885 年 6 月 30 日领事和外交的财政年度拨款的法令副本	1884-11-25	312
072	M101-10	60	C. Seymour 表示已经收到 1884 年 8 月 21 日的函件,陈述领事职务的特征,附寄领事馆的草图	1884-11-25	314
073	M101-10	61	C. Seymour 报告在中国的军事行动,22 000 名中国士兵已经离开广州奔赴前线,抵抗法国的入侵	1884-12-13	325
074	M101-10	62	C. Seymour 请求在 1885 年休假 60 天	1884-12-15	328
075	M101-10	63	C. Seymour 提交 1884 年的年度和季度报告、季度租借账目和杂项开支账目	1885-1-7	331
076	M101-10		附件(表格 123):广州领事馆及其领事代办处的雇员名单	1885-1-1	333
077	M101-10		附件:1884 年广州领事馆签发的护照和美国公民结婚登记的报告	1884-12-31	334
078	M101-10	64	C. Seymour 修正国务院的记录,声明其中提到的翻译 Yu C. Chiang 已经在 1881 年因不诚实而被解雇	1885-1-7	335
079	M101-10	65	广州和汕头的美国居民所签名的请愿书,请求领事 Seymour 留任	1885-2-9	338
080	M101-10		附件:居住在广州及汕头的美国公民致总统阁下的信	1885-1	340
081	M101-10		附件:Charles Seymour 关于广州领事馆的 1 份细目	1885-1	341
082	M101-10	66	C. Seymour 报告用于汕头翻译工资的未兑付汇票的情况,提交 1884 年第 2 季度的杂项开支账目。并转达汕头领事代办的意见,询问国务院是否打算放弃汕头领事代办处	1885-2-23	342
083	M101-10	67	C. Seymour 提交 1885 年第 1 季度的账目和报告	1885-4-25	353

084	M101-10	68	C. Seymour 报告广州领事馆收到的国务院公文的编号	1885-5-5	356
085	M101-10	69	C. Seymour 提请注意未兑付的汇票和领事馆的必要开支,并说明其兑付的必要性	1885-5-5	359
086	M101-10	70	C. Seymour 报告 Whey Ting(别名 John Frederic Pearron)的公民身份。领事 Seymour 想知道这孩子是其美国籍父亲和中国籍母亲在中国的婚生子女还是非婚生子女,同时表示可遵循中国的风俗,并根据修正案的第 1993 条认为他是美国公民	1885-5-23	366
087	M101-10	71	C. Seymour 任命 Cheim Poy Woo 为翻译,并附有关中国翻译的评论	1885-5-27	375
088	M101-10		附件 $\frac{1}{A}$: C. Seymour 有关中国翻译的评论		377
089	M101-10	72	C. Seymour 报告广州现在爆发类似霍乱的流行病,并提供关于疾病的起因和影响的详细情节	1885-6-4	393
090	M101-10	73	根据国务院的第 59 公文,领事 C. Seymour 关闭了琼州和北海的领事代办处	1885-6-8	402
091	M101-10	$\frac{1}{A}$	C. Seymour 致 J. R. Allen 信件的副本	1885-6-3	408
092	M101-10	$\frac{2}{A}$	C. Seymour 致 T. Wattess 信件的副本	1885-6-3	409
093	M101-10	74	C. Seymour 提交关于广东和华南的商业信息的年度报告	1885-6-13	410
094	M101-10	75	C. Seymour 报告美国与中国和东方的贸易情况,并提出美国在中国和东方的最佳贸易方式	1885-6-15	457
095	M101-10	76	C. Seymour 提交鞋子和皮革贸易的报告	1885-6-17	468
096	M101-10	77	C. Seymour 声称尽管包括两广总督管辖区在内的中国许多地区都已经宣布和平,但是对航行的限制仍然实行	1885-6-18	473
097	M101-10	A	C. Seymour 致两广总督信件的副本	1885-6-18	476
098	M101-10	78	C. Seymour 说明保留治安官的必要性	1885-6-19	477
099	M101-10	79	C. Seymour 报告广州河流域发生洪水,并提供相关报导	1885-6-27	483



*Atk, &c. For Cont. destroyed
No. 14
See note
may 2/83
D. H. Clair*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Jan. 25 1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Alce,

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

Opinion at Canton Agency.

SYNOPSIS.

*Opinions to their continuance.
Reasons why the State Department
should adopt the plan suggested by
by the Council, & disapproval of the
course recommended by U.S. Cons. in charge.*

N^o 14

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 26 - 1883

Wm. H. Wood

Third Asst. Secy. State

Washington D.C.

Sir

Respectfully

referring to my dispatch No 13, dated 9th
inst (vide third page), as to what I regard
summary expenses of the Consular Agency
at Canton, I am in receipt of letters from the
Consular Agent, Mr. Jones, at Canton, &
Mr. Tierce, Consul General Cheshire, at
Shanghai; disapproving of my suggestion
of action; and as I am fully persuaded
that when it is so difficult to obtain
appropriations from Congress to defray
the absolutely necessary expenses of the
various Departments of the Government,

2

the temper of the American people would not tolerate a continuance of such nonsense as expenditures for expenses of \$176.10 per 1/4 yr or rather, fees included, \$179.10, while the entire business of the 1/4 yr amounted to only three dollars, with no public good as the result.

I am informed by Mr. Cheshire U.S. C. G. in Charge, at Shanghai, in a letter dated 18th inst as follows -

"I have written to the Department asking it to disapprove of the course you suggest, as I believe it would not be beneficial to American interests at Swatow."

I may, perhaps, be a mystery to ordinary men that in a port which has so little com-

sular business as Legation, any
 one could be found with sufficient
 patriotism to conduct consular
 correspondence of such magnitude
 as the items for stationery &
 postage would represent,
 for such small pay as half
 of the fees. The solution of that
 mystery is found, as I believe,
 in the fact that the Ex-Consul
 Agent, Mr Williams; and the present
 Consul Agent, Mr Jones; and the
 Interpreter, Mr Shin Kye Pang;
 (and perhaps the Chinese Writer)
 are all in one, & the only one
 American Commercial house at
 Legation; & that the great bulk
 of the Correspondence with the
 Chinese authorities, during some

quarter and years, related
 to the private interests of the
 Consular Officers at Swatow,
 and, furthermore, that the other
 "American interests" at Swatow,
 the Missionaries, do not regard
 my plan with disfavor; but,
 on the contrary, have refused
 to comply with the solicitation
 of the Ex-consular Agent and the
 present Consular Agent as to getting
 up a remonstrance at Swatow
 against the Consul's plan of
 having the greater portion or
 nearly ^{all} of the business of the
 Interpreter & Chinese Writer
 done in the Consulate at Swatow.

I regard such unnecessary
 expenses as have been incurred

by the Government at Swatow,
 & probably many other similar
 places, in China & elsewhere,
 as little short of robbery;
 and with this conviction, I
 propose to carefully overhaul
 the correspondence between
 the Consular Agency at Swatow
 & the Chinese officials; & give
 the Department the result
 of my discoveries.

In the
 meantime I shall not
 be a party to what I believe
 a swindle that would not
 be justified for a moment
 under the light of investigation.

While writing, I have before
 me the Chronicle & Directory for

Persia, in 1882, just brought to
 me from the Library of the Canton
 Club, confirming my suspicion
 that the entire Consular force
 at Canton was in one business
 establishment, while letters read to
 me by several eminent Americans,
 who have called at the Consulate, &
 acquainted me with the feelings
 & desires of their Canton colleagues
 & correspondents, admit of no doubt, that,
 so far as American interests are
 concerned, outside of the Com-
 mercial concern which has so
 long used the Consular Agency
 as an appendage to their or
 its business outfit, it would be
 glad to be emancipated from what
 has been a dreaded source of power
 in unfriendly or indifferent interests.

But there is yet another better reason for having the Chinese correspondence for this Consul District at Canton only. viz: That as this is the residence of the Viceroy, to whom & whose rulings are referred & subjected all important business in his two Provinces, in one of which are both Canton & Swatow, it is desirable that there should be no possibility of any conflict or inconsistency in our correspondence with those very discerning & astute men who are entrusted, by China, with the duty of conducting correspondence with representatives of other countries.

I respectfully suggest that you permit me to reduce the expenses at least \$400. four hundred dollars, by allowing me to expend say \$220. per annum for the interpretation & writing of

of Chinese correspondence connected
with the Agency of Canton, either
here or there, as deemed most equitable
& advisable; instead of \$620,000 at Canton.

I believe that the
expenses of the Canton Consulate
can be kept down or diminished,
while the consular business of the
present fiscal year will be larger
than any three years combined
previous to 1881; & I am very desirous
to shake off all needless expense,
so that this Consulate shall
make a good business exhibit.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Very Respectfully Yours

Charles Seymour

M. Consul.

{ A copy of this
dispatch mailed
to the Vice Consul
Genl. in charge,
as this is mailed
per St. Gallie sailing 27 inst. } C.S.



No. 15

W. H. P. 11

D. H. C. 11

11 Mar 1883

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Jan. 28th 1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adce,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Continuation of report on the
Swatow Agency.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Visit from the Ex-Consular Agent.
Reasons urged by him for continuance
of "Interpreter" & "Writer".*

His admission as to the Consular force in Swatow.

N^o 15

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 26th 1883

~~Mr. A. A. A. A.~~

Third Asst. Secy of State
Washington D. C.

Sir

Yesterday I wrote you,
as per dispatch N^o. 14, mailed at 7½ o'clock
this morning, in regard to the expenses for
Interpreter & Writer at the Swatow Agency;
and a few minutes after my dispatch was
mailed, Co-Consular Agent C. C. Williams,
of Swatow, called to see me in reference to
that business. He said he had just come from
Shanghai & Hong Kong; & hastened away by
first boat, at 8 o'clock, to Hong Kong, after urging
me to continue the Interpreter & Writer at
Swatow Agency. He stated that the
Chinese Writer is also in his employ -

25

as well as the others named in my No. 14.
 He said his firm is the only American
 business house in Swatow - that the other
 Americans are Missionaries chiefly; but
 there are a few in the Chinese custom house
 service. He represented that the contingency of
 emergency might arise that an American
 ship might possibly arrive at Swatow, &
 require consular aid to suppress smuggling, &
 in which event I stated to him the Consular
 Agent would be justified & authorized to
 meet the emergency, which might not
 occur once in many years. He thought
 the dignity of the American Government & Nation
 required a full consular establishment at Swatow.
 I told him the men who voted
 the necessary appropriations for the
 various Departments of the Government had
 more regard for efficiency & economy than dignity.

In reply to my question - "Who would or were to be benefitted by keeping up those expenses at Canton, except his firm & the Consular Officers?", he fell back on the two points I have just stated.

As Mr Williams is evidently trying to enlist influences to aid him in keeping his business clerks in the nominal employ, & pay, of the U.S. Government; & thus retain the Consular Agency, especially the official medium of communication with the Chinese authorities, for his own personal ends, as intimated in my letter or dispatch No. 14, I feel it my duty to state that this morning's interview with Mr Williams has removed from my mind all doubt

as to the propriety & expediency of transferring the bulk or nearly all of the Chinese interpretation writing ^(from Swatow to Canton), of correspondence with the Chinese authorities - reserving merely the power for the consular agent at Swatow to meet any pressing or urgent emergency.

That, however, will not suit the firm of Williams & Co., Swatow; whose chief object (besides having the Govt. help in paying salaries to two Chinese clerks), I believe, is to conduct the correspondence with the Chinese authorities upon matters affecting the business interests, facilities & property, of this firm; or as I stated - to keep the consular Agency as an appendage to its business outfit. Very Respectfully
Charles Seymour
W. Co. Swatow

A copy of this dispatch will be
immediately mailed to the U.S. Vice Consul
General in Charge at Shanghai; as
the original will go per steamer
Gallia, sailing tomorrow from
Hong Kong for San Francisco.
C.S.



No. 16

Deception

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 28th 1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

*Hon. A. A. Ades,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

The Ng Chow Pillage & Assault.

SYNOPSIS.

*Report of preliminary proceedings
in regard to restitution of, or
indemnity for, property destroyed;
with particulars of outrages.
Responsibility of any foreigners
to see the ill Viceroy.*

No. 16.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Hon. A. A. Rice

Third Asst. Sec. of State

Washington - D.C.

Sir

I have the honor to inform you, that, for some time past, I have been diligently & carefully investigating facts in regard to serious outrages perpetrated in October & November, 1882, at Ng Chow, in the "Kwang Si" Province, within this Consular District, being one of the two Provinces over which the Viceroy, "Tseng", in Canton, presides, and administers.

Briefly, the facts may be sketched, to enable you to understand it is a case that demands care & attention.

In 1865 the "Southern Baptists Convention"

having head-office at Richmond, Virginia, established a Chapel & Dispensary at Ngy Chow, about 230 miles from Canton. In 1871 the Chapel & Dispensary were pillaged & destroyed. Considerable correspondence occurred through the Consulate, without obtaining from the Chinese authorities any indemnity.

In April, 1882, the Baptist Chapel & Dispensary were re-established at Ngy Chow; and in October both were pillaged by two mobs of Chinese; & in the following month of November, 1882, a third mob demolished what was left of the two leased buildings occupied by the Baptists as Chapel & Dispensary at Ngy Chow; & also demolished a third building in which resided a Chinese widow, who owned, & leased to the Baptist Missionaries the two buildings, on a ten years' lease, for Chapel & Dispensary.

In November, 1882, a fourth Chinese mob in N'gohow, violently assaulted the Baptist Missionary in charge of the chapel & dispensaries in 1871/1882, Rev E. J. Simmons, a highly esteemed worthy colleague & co-laborer of the eminent veteran Missionary Rev Dr. A. P. Graves, for the past 28 years an honored custodian of Baptist interests at Canton.

The mob at N'gohow at the same time violently assaulted Rev H. L. ^{now} ~~Graves~~ (H. V. ^{now} ~~Graves~~), long & famously known as a judicious & able American Presbyterian Missionary, & esteemed colleague & co-laborer of the celebrated Rev Dr. ^{A.P.} Happer, for the past third of a century, or more, in charge of the American Presbyterian Mission at Canton & in Southern China.

Both of these Missionaries,
 Reverends Simmons & Stages,
 were accompanied by their
 families, in house boats; &
 all were in great peril from
 showers of brick-bats & stones,
 thrown at the two Missionaries,
 & their boats, by a mob of a
 thousand Chinese (instigated
 & paid, it is believed, by the "gentry"
 or Chinese "literati"), who tried to
 prevent the escape of their victims.

And, both Simmons & Stages,
 were at N'g Chow, under passports
 issued at Peking, & bearing the
 names of the American or U. S. Minister,
 & high Chinese Officials.

The Missionaries of ^{several} ~~all~~ denom-
 inations & nationalities at Canton

took the matter earnestly; and united in an urgent request upon me to seek redress for grievances, that, if permitted to go on, will drive all Missionaries out of China; as similar or worse scenes have occurred in other parts of China, to the jeopardy & injury of French R.C. Missionaries, & American Missionaries.

The Viceroy at Canton has been continuing so ill, that neither of the four Admirals (French, British, Russian and American) who have visited Canton during this Winter, & none of the Consular Corps residing at Canton, have been able to get an interview for many months past, with that high Chinese official.

~~In the meantime~~ Some correspondence

has occurred between the Consulate
and the Viceroy regarding the loss of
the Sloop "Miner" at Nanking,
and, in the meantime, while experi-
encing the customary delay with
which Chinese officials worry out
foreign correspondents, I have,
as stated, been gathering facts, which will
be soon presented to the Viceroy, faithfully.

The object of this dispatch being to
acquaint you of what has occurred,
in order to meet any uneasiness that
may be manifested in the United States
regarding these outrages, through the com-
munications of the Ministers, who are im-
patient to get matters properly righted.
I hope to send you a further report
of this case, which will receive the approval
of the Department and concerned, I trust.

Copy of this dispatch
goes direct to the U.S.
Vice Consul General
at Shanghai, to enable
him to go per S. S. Gallie.

Very Respectfully Yours
Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul.

No 16 bis

ac
Mar 17/83
Shimon

Not kept elements

Correction of No. 16

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 28th 1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adce,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Correction of No. 16

SYNOPSIS.

Request to substitute name of Rev
H. V. Noyes for Rev H. Groves in third line
of second paragraph of third written page
of dispatch No. 16.

No 16
Correction Supplementary.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Jan'y 26. 1883

Hon. A. A. Addie

Third Asst. Sec'y of State

Washington D.C.

Sir

*I respectfully request
my dispatch No 16 dated Jan'y 26/83
may be corrected by substituting
the name of Rev H. V. Noyes
instead of Rev H. Graves in third
line of second paragraph on
third written page of my No 16,
of this date.*

Very respectfully

Charles Seymour

U.S. Consul



No. 17

motion

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Feb. 14. 1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

The Consular Agency at Swatow.

SYNOPSIS.

Fishery-interests of an American Citizen named William Ashmore jeopardized and impaired by Chinese trespassers, who claim the owner has not the protection or influence of U. S. Consular officers.

N^o 14.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Feb. 14th 1883

Hon. A. A. Odell

Third Asst. Sec. of State

Washington D. C.

Sir

I shall hereafter send my dispatches, as admonished by the U.S. Vice Consul General in charge, to the State Department, around via Shanghai, in accordance with "Rules and Regulations", although that process of correspondence between Washington and Canton is slower than backing a toad through a barrel of tar.

Having referred, in my dispatches, Nos 13, 14 & 15, to the Consul General at Swatow, I have the honor to state that the first transaction that

has come to my knowledge since the arrival of the Chinese correspondence of that Agency at this Consulate, seems to verify the intimations given to, and the suspicion or surmise expressed by me, that the Agency, and especially the Chinese branch of it, has been almost exclusively for the personal benefit of those connected with the Agency; that the interests of others, who were entitled to the friendly or protective influence of the U.S. Consul's Agency, have been treated with indifference, at least. A case in point occurs. William Ashmore, an American Citizen, who has, perhaps, the misfortune to be a missionary's brother, has a title, and undoubted membership of, fishery interests at

At Amoy Bay, near
Swatow; on which he has
paid taxes to the Chinese
authorities regularly for the
past ten years.

Frequent and repeated
encroachments have been made
upon his fishery-rights, until the
owner (Ashmore) is threatened with
the entire deprivation and loss of
his property, by the aggressions of
Chinese; who defy him to prevent
them from doing whatever they please;
and tell him, derisively, what
he feels is the truth, that he has
no support or protection from the
U.S. Consular Officers at Swatow.

I have, upon representation
of certain facts in the case, asked

The Viceroy to notify the local authorities to prevent any further attempts to molest, disturb, or injure the interests of an American citizen named William Ashmore, residing at Swatow, in the property denied, until opportunity is given me to lay all of the facts of the case before the Viceroy.

In the meantime, those interested in continuing matters as they were at Swatow, even very desirous to have the Chinese correspondence immediately returned from the Consulate, even before it reached here.

I acquaint you with these particulars in connection with my Nos 13, 14 & 15. I have the honor to be,
Sir, Very Respectfully,

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul

P.S. added on
next page.

P.S.

I am persuaded, from what information has reached me, before and since my arrival in China, that the control of the correspondence, between the Consulates of the various Governments of the Western Hemisphere and the Chinese authorities, has often been of infinitely greater value, pecuniarily, than the salaries, emoluments, offers, combined, in the acquisition of privileges, and in disturbing or confirming titles to property & franchises, &c.

L.S.



APR
2
1883

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Feb. 14. 1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adee,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Flags, and Dictionaries,
and Dispatch-trine requested,
for use of Consulate.

SYNOPSIS.

Request to be permitted to charge
in account amount paid for a flag;
and also request that, for use of the
Chinese Interpreter and Writer, Dictionaries
may be supplied by State Department.
Also a supply of Dispatch-trine needed.

N^o 18

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Feb^y 14th 1883

Hon A. A. Adee

Third Asst. Sec^y of State

Washington D.C.

Sir.

In my N^o 10, dated Dec 30/82, I made a request for some new flags; and as the Shanghai route of communication will necessarily involve many moons of delay in receiving a supply, if granted, I respectfully ask permission to charge the sum of eight dollars, in my account, some time during the year A.D. 1883, or whenever permission is received by the circuitous route over which it may come, for that sum paid to a Chinese tailor for an American flag for immediate use,

as the wind of New Year's Days (American and Chinese) demolished the old flag, beyond repairs.

I also respectfully make requisition, if within the compliance of the State Department, for the use of this Consulate; and especially for the purpose of facilitating correspondence between the Consulate and the Chinese authorities; a Copy of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary in English; and also a Copy of S. Wells Williams' Chinese ^{English} Dictionary, which is standard authority on the various dialects of China.

During the preparation of correspondence, involving the use of a wider vocabulary than (that)

that which is derived from the use of such obsolete and limited books as Dr Walker's English Dictionary, of the edition of 1861; and Prof Williams' Sino Dictionary, of the edition of 1856, the need of better English and Chinese Dictionaries was apparent.

The Interpreter of this Consulate, A. K. Chiu, for many years in the service of Chief Justice Smale, as Chinese Clerk in the Supreme Court at Hong Kong, enjoys the reputation of a man of unsullied character, with good abilities; and, although his hours of arrival and departure are such as to compel me to employ an extra Chinese man, who can assist in supplying interpretations for current business, when the Interpreter is not present, I desire to retain the present Interpreter,

as a trustworthy and desirable man.
 These books are needed not only for
 the Interpreter and Writer; but also to
 aid the Chinamen upon whom I rely
 constantly during the absence of the
 Interpreter; or before & after his working hours.

A supply of tri-colored dispatch-
 cord, such as tied in the corners of
 these leaves, brought here by Consul
 Scruggs, is nearly exhausted; and a
 new supply is required.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Very Respectfully Yours,

Charles Seymour
 M. Consul



No. 19

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

April 7-1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Quarterly Returns
and Accounts.

SYNOPSIS.

Enclosing Vouchers
for Miscellaneous Expenses;
with Returns required by
State Department

No 17
United States Consulate, Canton, China.

April 7th 1883

Hon A. A. Abdee

Third Asst. Sec. of State
Washington D.C.

Sir

I have the honor
to hand you herewith Returns,
and Accounts, with vouchers,
for the Quarter ending March
31st 1883, as per enclosures
stated below, namely -

- 1st Digest of Invoice Book. State.
- 2nd Arrivals & Departures of Am. Vessels. do.
- 3rd Record of Notarial Services. do.
- 4th Summary of Consular Business. do.
- 5th Account of Miscellaneous Expenses,
in duplicate, with vouchers.

As there is nothing to report

under Forms Nos 121 and 137,
they are omitted.

I am,

Sir,

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient-Servant,
Charles Seymour
M.C. Consul

Form 159.

Quarterly transcript of the Record of Notarial services at the Consulate Canton, during
the quarter ended the *31st* day of *March* 188*3*

DATE	TO WHOM THE SERVICE WAS RENDERED	NATURE OF THE SERVICE	AMOUNT OF FEE OR COMPENSATION	REMARKS
<i>1883</i>				
<i>96 Jan 2</i>	<i>Deacon Ho</i>	<i>Furnishing Copy of Invoice</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>Certified true & Copy</i>
<i>99</i>	<i>" " Siemsen Ho</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>94</i>	<i>" " Russell Ho</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>95</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>96</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>97</i>	<i>" 3 Thomas, Row & Smith</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>98</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>99</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>104</i>	<i>" 5 Russell Ho</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>—</i>	<i>" 5 Earlson Ho</i>	<i>Certifying & Furnishing " Quantitative</i>	<i>6 50</i>	<i>on 11/2 in London & Verbal</i>
<i>105</i>	<i>" Thomas, Row & Smith</i>	<i>Furnishing Copy Invoice</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>Certified true & Copy</i>
<i>106</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>107</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>108</i>	<i>" " Siemsen Ho</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>110</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>112</i>	<i>" 12 Earlson Ho</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>113</i>	<i>" " Russell Ho</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>114</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>115</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>116</i>	<i>" 13 A. Dent Ho</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>117</i>	<i>" Thomas, Row & Smith</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>118</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>119</i>	<i>" 15 Thomas, Row & Smith</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>120</i>	<i>" 23 " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>121</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>122</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>123</i>	<i>" 26 Russell Ho</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>124</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>125</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>126</i>	<i>" Thomas, Row & Smith</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>127</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>128</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>129</i>	<i>" 31 A. Dent Ho</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>130</i>	<i>" 31 Russell Ho</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>131</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>132</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>133</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>134</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>135</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>136</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>137</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>138</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>139</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>140</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>141</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>142</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>143</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>144</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>145</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>146</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>147</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>148</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>149</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>150</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>151</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>152</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>153</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>154</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>155</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>156</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>157</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
			<i>74 00</i>	

I certify that the foregoing Record of Notarial services is a full and correct transcript of the Record of this Consulate, and that the same contains a true and accurate statement of all the Fees received at this Consulate for such services during the period named.

U. S. CONSUL.

Form 159.

Quarterly transcript of the Record of Notarial services at the Consulate Canton, during
the quarter ended the 31st day of March, 1883

No.	DATE.	TO WHOM THE SERVICE WAS RENDERED.	NATURE OF THE SERVICE.	AMOUNT OF FEE OR COMMISSION.		REMARKS.		
				\$	Cts.			
	1883							
169	Feb 5	Thomas, Knott Smith	Furnishing Copy	74	50	Brought Forward		
170	"	"	"	2	00	Certified Lead & Copy		
171	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
172	"	10 R. Dent Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
173	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
174	"	17 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
175	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
176	"	18 Thomas, Knott Smith	"	2	00	"	"	"
177	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
178	"	9 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
179	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
180	"	10 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
181	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
182	"	11 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
183	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
184	"	12 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
185	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
186	"	13 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
187	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
188	"	14 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
189	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
190	"	15 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
191	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
192	"	16 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
193	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
194	"	17 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
195	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
196	"	18 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
197	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
198	"	19 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
199	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
200	"	20 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
201	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
202	"	21 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
203	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
204	"	22 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
205	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
206	"	23 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
207	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
208	"	24 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
209	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
210	"	25 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
211	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
212	"	26 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
213	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
214	"	27 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
215	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
216	"	28 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
217	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
218	"	29 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
219	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
220	"	30 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
221	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
222	"	31 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
223	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
224	"	32 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
225	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
226	"	33 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
227	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
228	"	34 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
229	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
230	"	35 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
231	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
232	"	36 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
233	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
234	"	37 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
235	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
236	"	38 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
237	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
238	"	39 Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"	"
239	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
240	"	"	"	2	00	"	"	"
				152	50			
				1	50			
				154	00			
				154	00			

I certify that the foregoing Record of Notarial services is a full and correct transcript of the Record of this Consulate, and that the same contains a true and accurate statement of all the Fees received at this Consulate for such services during the period named.

U. S. CONSUL.

Form No. 103.

Summary of business at the United States Consulate at Canton during
the Quarter ended *March 31st* 188*3*

Movement of Vessels.

Vessels in Port from last Quarter:

one, American Barque "John D. Brewer"

Vessels arriving during present Quarter:

Vessels departing:

one, American Barque - "John D. Brewer"

Vessels remaining in Port:

Tonnage arriving:

Tonnage departing:

962

Report of the Consul of the Treasury Dept.
Fees received, \$*16.62* viz: *certificates, discharge 4 seamen - \$4.00; Deposit Shippapers \$1.00; Tonnage \$9.62; Port Clearance \$2.00*
Expenses, including Salary, \$

Movement of Seamen.

Seamen in Port from last Quarter:

Crew of "John D. Brewer"

Seamen arriving:

Seamen shipped:

Seamen died:

Seamen discharged:

From

Seamen deserted:

Seamen departed:

Crew of American Barque "John D. Brewer"

Seamen in Port:

Synopsis of Seamen's Account.

Balance from previous Quarter:

\$ Dr. \$ Cr.

Received for Extra Wages:

Eighteen Dollars = \$18.00
Credited in Quarterly account current
and applied on salary.

Expended for Seamen:


Balance:

[Large wavy line]

Consulate of the United States,

at Canton, *March 31st* 188*3*


Charles Edmund
Consul



No. 27

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

April 7. 1883



O'Sullivan

Use June 7 1883

Heiman

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Enclosing Return, and
Accounts from Consular
Agency at Swatow

SYNOPSIS.

N^o 20

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

April 7 1883

Hon A.A. Adce

Third Asst. Secy of State

Washington

Sir

I have the honor
to hand you herewith return and
accounts from U.S. Consular
Agency at Swatow for Quarter
ending March 31st 1883,
as per enclosed stated below.

- 1st Arrival & Departure of American Vessels. *etc.*
- 2nd Detailed List of Seamen shipped &c *file*
- 3rd Record of Treasures, Fees. *etc.*
- 4th Account with U.S. Govt. *etc.*

I am, Sir,

Very Respy Yours,

Charles Seymour

U.S. Consul

[Form No. 15.]

DETAILED LIST OF SEAMEN OR MARINERS Shipped, Discharged, or Deceased, at the Consulate of the ^{Republic} United States, at *Swatow*, from *1st January* to *31st March 1883* and the payments made on account of each.

If Discharge, or Deceased.	Names of Seamen or Mariners Discharged.	Names of Seamen or Mariners Shipped.	Names of Seamen or Mariners Deceased.	To what Vessel belonging.	Amount of Payments made.	
					DOLLARS.	CENTS.
17	<i>Aguida Motuchi</i>			<i>Almatia</i>		
"	<i>Kotaki</i>			"		
"	<i>Okawal Kikuyimio</i>			"		
"	<i>Takata</i>			"		
"	<i>Nagardisaburo</i>			"		
"	<i>Elar Hadahio</i>			"		
"	<i>Sau</i>			"		
"	<i>Tow</i>			"		
22	<i>Ah Suang</i>			"		
"	<i>Ah Tung</i>			"		
23		<i>Neo Ah Suang</i>		"		
"		<i>Goah Ah Yean</i>		"		
29		<i>Guanolo</i>		"		
"		<i>Yee do Kueh</i>		"		
"		<i>Kotaki</i>		"		
"		<i>Mododentki</i>		"		
"		<i>Smizu</i>		"		
"		<i>Okama kardodami</i>		"		
"		<i>Taka Miki</i>		"		
"		<i>Nagidesauero</i>		"		
"	<i>H. Kelqui</i>			"		
"		<i>H. Kelqui</i>		"		
31		<i>Sh Hongstad</i>		"		

M. Jones
U. S. Consul at Swatow

Form No. 103.

Summary of business at the United States Consulate, *Agency Swatow* at ~~Canton~~ during
the Quarter ended *31st March* 188*3*.

Movement of Vessels.

Vessels in Port from last Quarter: *null.*
Vessels arriving during present Quarter: *2.*
Vessels departing: *1*
Vessels remaining in Port: *1.*
Tonnage arriving: *484-81.*
Tonnage departing: *386-81.*
Fees received, \$ *411 85.*
Expenses, including Salary, \$ *165 50.*

Movement of Seamen.

Seamen in Port from last Quarter: *null.*
Seamen arriving: *11.*
Seamen shipped: *12.*
Seamen died: *null.*
Seamen discharged: *11.*
Seamen deserted: *null.*
Seamen departed: *12.*
Seamen in Port: *number of Spartans Seamen unknown*

Synopsis of Seamen's Account

Balance from previous Quarter:
Received for Extra Wages:
Expended for Seamen: *null*
Balance:

*This amount of fifty three
dollars was deducted
by the U.S. Consulate
at Canton from remittance
to U.S. Consulate Agent
at Swatow; and applied
on board's salary in
rendered for 14 aft ending
March 31/83. Then the
\$53.00 was sent into the
U.S. Agent's account by
the U.S. Consulate at
Swatow.*

file



W. C. Claiborne

United States Consul at London.
April 20th 1883.

W. C. Claiborne to the Department of State.

Correction of misdirection of remittance
of sum of subscriptions to the Garfield
Memorial Hospital Fund, account-
ed for in Account of Contingent ex-
penses of the Third Quarter of
1882: And advising draft N^o 4.
for \$105. Gold.

United States Consulate
Canton April 20th 1883

Wm A. Alder, Esquire
Third Assistant Secretary of State
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform
you that, in compliance with the
instructions of the Hon. the Comptroller
of the Treasury of the 17th February,
I have this day drawn my N^o 4,
25 d/s, upon the Honorable The
Secretary of State in favor of the Hon.
James McMillan, Treasurer of the
Garfield Memorial Hospital Fund,
for \$105. Gold, say One hundred five
Dollars Gold: Being a retransfer
of that sum in correction of its
misdirection in the rendering of
my Account of Contingent Expenses for
the third Quarter of 1882.

Respectfully apologizing for the
trouble thus caused,

I am, Sir,

Yours obedient servant

Wm. A. Alder
Vice Consul at Canton



D. F. Clair

No. 21.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

April 25th 1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

*Acknowledging Nos 11 & 12
from the
State Department.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Reporting action on
the subject matter
of said No 11*

N^o 21

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

April 25th 1883

Saml. A. Ades

Third Asst. Sec. of State
Washington D.C.
Sir

I have the honor to
acknowledge having this day
received dispatches Nos 11 & 12
from the State Department.
As to No. 11, dated 2nd
ultimo, I have availed myself
of the earliest possible op-
portunity to acquaint the
U.S. Consular Agent at Swatow
of the decision of the State
Department, disapproving
of my proposed reduction

of the salaries of Interpreter and
Chinese Writers at the Canton Agency.

Having, agreeably with
the views expressed by Mr. Cheshire,
M. T. Consul Genl. in charge; and
information derived from M. Con-
sular Agent Jones, at Amoy;
rescinded the objectionable order, in time
to prevent any injustice or inconve-
nience, and to enable the Chinese clerks
of Messrs. Williams & Co, in Amoy, to
draw their pay for their not very
arduous official duties; I trust no
serious injury to public or private
interests resulted from my proposition
to get rid of what seem to me unnecessary
expenses, respecting which it appears
I have no control.

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully
Your Obedt. Servant
Charles Seymour
M. T. Consul



RECEIVED
MAY 14 1883

No. 22

McClair

we
ordered
June 1883
Hawman

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 14. 1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Requisition for Supplies.

SYNOPSIS.

Blank Drafts nearly exhausted.
Dispatch paper wanted in few months.
Tri-colored silk Cord wanted for dispatches.

N^o 22

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 14 1883

Sir A. A. Adee

Third Assistant Sec. of State

Washington D. C.

Sir

Have the honor to make
request for a supply of blank drafts,
which will be exhausted in closing
accounts for the present quarter.

Also please send a supply of
dispatch paper in about equal quan-
tities of the two widths of ruling - Send
viz: of same width between lines as this
sheet; and of same width as sample
enclosed. Our present supply will last six months.
The thin "foolscap" paper can be found here.

Roll of two-colored silk cord for dis-
patches, as per sample enclosed is desired.

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant

Charles Seymour
U. S. Consul



No. 23

By Hand

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 14 1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

*Hon. A. A. Ades,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

Conditional leave of absence for sixty days.

SYNOPSIS.

*Arrangement with Vice Consul Nye
respecting absence, if authorized by
the State Department.*

N^o 23.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 14. 1883

Hon. A. A. Ades

Third Asst. Sec. of State

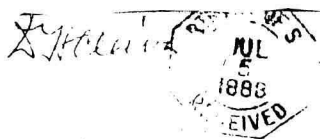
Washington D.C.

Sir.

I have the honor to state that one of the first acts of my Consulship was to enter into a friendly arrangement with my venerable predecessor, Edeon Nye, Esquire, who is duly commissioned as U. S. Vice Consul, at Canton, whither he came, in 1833, (50 years ago) from Massachusetts. It is my desire to have him retain that position while I am Consul, as he is a gentleman who is held in high esteem by all who know his career; his large experience is a valuable resource. At one period of his residence in China he was extensively engaged in Commerce; and in the dark days of the Civil (or Mexican) War in "U. S. A." he faithfully & patriotically espoused the Union Cause when friends were scarce in these regions. My arrangement is this; and I respectfully ask if it has your approval.

I pay Mr Nye three hundred dollars per annum (besides some other mutually satisfactory reciprocal favors) for the privilege of having his services at the U.S. Consulate as U.S. Vice Consul for sixty business days in each year, if those services are required, or not; but the arrangement contemplates or provides for a vacation, or leave of absence, whether I avail myself of it or not, for sixty days per year. We have also stipulated that if, at any time, a longer leave of absence might be granted, he shall serve as Vice Consul for me, or in my stead, at five dollars per day. I am not at all certain that I shall require any such "leave" or vacation this year of 1883; but, as I have passed my life in Latitude 45°, it is possible the prolonged heat of this climate & country or locality may make such absence or vacation a necessity; in which event, in the last half of this year, I would be thankful for "leave", for sixty days or so.

I am, Sir, Yours obedient servant
 Charles Leonard
 U.S. Consul



No. 24

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 16. 1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

The new U. S. Tariff Law.

SYNOPSIS.

Many important changes
regarding invoices of Mfg,
upon which Consuls need
authentic information.

N^o 24

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

United States Consulate, C. 1883

May 18-78.

FROM

Charles Jess
and Asst. Sec. of State

Washington D.C.

Sir.

The new U.S.
Tariff Law, published in various forms
in American and English newspapers,
for the benefit of those persons who
are engaged in Commerce, having been
more or less in circulation among
business men in China, while it
is desirable that the Consulates
should be in possession of full
and authentic information as to
business requiring Consular attention;
I should respectfully request

that an accurate copy of the
new Law may be sent soon.

It is desired ^{to get a copy}
Consulate, Canton, China.
for reference by 18th 1883
While in ^{the} ^{consulate} ^{may}

not wholly go into ^{the} ^{consulate} ^{until}
until the beginning of the new fiscal
year; one of its important provisions
seems to have taken effect when
the President signed the Law in March.

Section 3, almost immediately following
the "Free List," near the end of the new Law,
if correctly printed, repealed, on the 3rd
of March 1883, Section 2907 of the
U. S. Revised Statutes; which included
many items under head of "Charges," as
forming a portion of the dutiable value of
invoiced Mfg. There may be other points
on which Consuls need authentic information.

I have the honor to be,
Sir, Your obedient servant
Charles Seymour
McCombe

NY 100

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 18-1883

Hon. S. D. Lee
Third Asst. Sec. of State
Washington D. C.
Sir.

I have the honor to
inform you that the best efforts
of the Canton and Hong Kong
Consulates to discover the actual
residence of Chinese shippers of
Opium to the United States, and the
real ownership of the Opium shipped,
have thus far failed, through the
successful and persistent con-
cealment of their affairs from
public inspection.

Col Mosby sent hither his

very discerning Chinese Interpreter, with a list of shippers in whose names invoices are certified at Hong Kong. My Interpreter, or the Interpreter of this Consulate, and myself, separately and together, co-operating with the Hong Kong Interpreter, found it impossible to trace out the owners.

The Custom House Officials here, (in the ~~provincial~~ Customs) say the Chinese merchants resort to so many aliases and fictitious names that it is utterly impossible to keep any trace of them. The transportation Companies are similarly baffled.

One of the difficulties is that large establishments are carried on some fancy title, such as "Vochoo" or "Ou-Loong", or "Po Hing", or "Fow Loong" - the latter meaning "Plentiful Prosperity", with unknown numbers of partners. So, the only way is to have the Custom House Officials in U.S. vigilant as to appraisal; regardless of invoiced value, until the Chinese shippers who generally live in Canton, where the idiz is produced & sold, shall do as the European & American merchant-shippers do, & certify at Canton.

I have the honor to be,

Sir, Your Obedient Servant

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul



*Instruction to
Mr. Young
July 1883
Canton*

No. 20

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 18th 1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adce,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*The Ng Chow Outrages,
and Missionary troubles.*

SYNOPSIS.

*The Case, with Copies of English and
Chinese Correspondence, and full partic-
ulars, sent, 18th inst, to the H. Minister.
Essential facts enclosed.
Chinese Officials delay, without
valid defense, or excuse.*

No. 20

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 16. 1883

Genl. A. A. Lee

Third Asst. Sec. of State

Washington D. C.

Sir

I have the honor to
state that yesterday I sent
to the U. S. Minister at Peking
the Case of the "Nykoh Outrages"
of October and November 1882,
with copies of English and Chinese
correspondence, and full particulars.

Essential facts are set forth in
the enclosed copy of a lengthy
communication to the Viceroy, which
is sent in the most compact and
convenient form, as I had no time

2

to make more than one copy in
writing, which I sent to the Viceroy;
and had no assistance requisite
for writing out copies for the records,
for the Department, for the Legation,
and for the parties immediately
interested in the results of this test
case, which is being watched with
deep interest by the European and
American Missionaries of
various denominations; to whom,
at the proper time, with your con-
currence, the essential facts might
be communicated, considering
the nature of the call upon
this Consulate, & publicity of their proceedings.

These are interesting times
for the Missionaries in Northern China;
and they feel that their interests
(and.)

(3)

and safety have long been treated with indifference by Diplomatic & Consular Officers of all Nations:

Numerous dispatches have passed back and forth between this Consulate and the Viceroy, respecting these and other outrages against American citizens, who are identified with Missions; but the persistent efforts of the Chinese Officials to worry out all applicants for redress of wrongs, must not be allowed to prevent an honorable adjustment of this flagrant violation of Treaty stipulations.

The continued feebleness of the Acting Viceroy, "Tseng", prevents him from performing official duties; & from having interviews with the official representatives of foreign Nations.

In the meantime, throughout these two Provinces, malignant hatreds of foreigners, led by the intolerant Gentlemen,

4

and shielded by unscrupulous officials, are troublesome.

Inflammatory placards, issued in the name of the Government, inciting the populace to acts of violence against foreigners and Christians, usually precede outrages.

Proclamations issued by the local Magistrates, enjoining the people to abstain from violence, are quickly extinguished.

During my sojourn here, I have had my hands full of business of this nature; and shall endeavor to meet all just requirements to the best of my humble ability.

The Canton correspondent of the China Mail, published at Hong Kong, is an English Wesleyan Missionary, Rev. Frederic J. Masters, in a communication, of which copies in duplicate are enclosed, has given expression to

the views of the Missionaries,
 generally. There is no doubt
 that Sir Thomas Wade, the
 British Minister at Peking,
 who has just retired, very
 quietly and firmly left
 the English Missionaries to
 get out of their troubles the
 best they could; and as for the
 French Missionaries, they
 are held responsible by
 the Protestant Missionaries
 for much of the trouble that
 overtakes Missions in China,
 because of the impression among
 Chinese Officials and Gentlemen
 that temporal affairs receive
 undue attention at the hands
 of the P.C. Missionaries.
 So far as one can get at
 the facts, no Chinese have
 ever had occasion to com-
 plain of imprudent or
 troublesome interference outside duty,
 on the part of American Missionaries.

67

Although it is an exceedingly delicate matter to refer to in an official dispatch the fact ought not to be suppressed that much of the indifference, or lack of kindness, that is prevalent in "the East," in regard to the unselfish and self-denying labors of the missionaries, is attributable to the absence of sound domestic relations, and the prevalence of immorality in the social arrangements, of the "foreign communities"; between whose customs, and the higher philosophy of Christian enlightenment, aimed at and promulgated by missionaries, there is, and can be, little or no practical sympathy or co-operation.

I dare not be more explicit, and cannot say less in truth.

The missionaries, forerunners in "the East" have silently, patiently, and bravely struggled against this adverse current of influence, and should no longer suffer for their vocation.

Believing and hoping that this "Ng Chow Outrages" case will receive the best attention of the Legation, and Department; and that the Chinese officials, with no valid defense, will not be allowed to indefinitely postpone action upon, and adjournment of a matter, which they are trying to shake off under the plea of "requiring further information and reports."

I am, Sir,
Very Respectfully,
Your obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul

Two Enclosures in Two Envelopes
viz

2 Copies of Statements of "Ng Chow Outrages".
2 Copies of China Mail Correspondence.

THE OUTRAGES AT NG CHOW, SOUTHERN CHINA.

TO THE U. S. CONSUL, CANTON, CHINA.

SIR,

I have the honor to ask your attention to the enclosed statement, representing the opinions of the Protestant Missionaries in Canton, in regard to the recent attack on two of their number, Messrs. SIMMONS and NOYES, by the Chinese at Ng Chow, and the destruction of property belonging to the Baptist Mission at that place.

I am, Sir, Yours Very Truly,

LONDON MISSION, CANTON, December, 21st 1882.

(Signed)

THOMAS W. PEARCE.

STATEMENTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF MISSIONARIES.

At a meeting of Missionaries held at the house of Dr. KERR, in Canton, on Monday, December, 18th, 1882, in regard to the steps that are proper to be taken in the matter of a recent attack upon Messrs. SIMMONS and NOYES, at Ng Chow Fu, in Kwang Sai Province, Southern China, the following statements and conclusions were unanimously arrived at, after having read and fully considered the facts of the case.

Whereas, on the 15th and 16th of October last an unprovoked attack was made on the premises of the Baptist Mission, accompanied by wanton destruction of property; and, on the 29th of November last, Messrs. SIMMONS and NOYES were assaulted by a hired mob, to the endangering of their personal safety; we are of the opinion—

1.—That according to the terms of the Treaty, and instructions recently received from the Honorable C. HOLCOMB, then U. S. Minister, at Peking, these brethren have full right to the protection of their persons, and that an apology should be demanded from the Chinese Government for the insult offered to them by a riotous mob.

2.—That the claim for indemnity for loss of property should be vigorously prosecuted.

3.—From the fact that the Missionaries were received in a friendly manner by the populace; and sold many books among them without opposition; and that several placards, inciting the people against foreigners, have been put out by the mob; we are of the opinion that the mob was instigated by the Gentry; and was in no way an expression of popular opposition to Christianity.

We would therefore request the U. S. Consul to call the attention of the Viceroy to the fact; and urge him to take means to reprimand the Gentry of Ng Chow for the violation of the Treaty.

The Undersigned fully concur in these views.

Canton, 20th December, 1882.

(Signed).

G. Hargreaves, C. Bone, Frederic J. Masters, William Bridie, Samuel George Tope, and Charles Wenyon; of the English Wesleyan Missions.

A. P. Happer, J. G. Kerr, B. C. Henry, H. Noyes, E. M. Butler, A. A. Fulton, and M. W. Niles; of the American Presbyterian Missions.

R. H. Graves, E. Z. Simmons, and S. E. Stein; of the American Southern-Baptist Missions.

John Grundy; of the English Church Missions.

Thomas W. Pearce, and E. R. Eichler; of the London Missions.

F. Hubrig, and Franc Jentzsch; of the Berlin Missions.

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

CANTON, CHINA,

February, 16th 1883.

To His Excellency,

TSENG.

ACTING VICEROY OF THE TWO QUANGS,
CANTON.

SIR,

A considerate regard for your health; and a sincere desire for its recovery; and also a hope that the information you were expected to receive from the authorities at Ng Chow in regard to the atrocities, pillage, sacrilege, violence and vandalism, perpetrated at that place, against some peaceable, unoffending, and law-abiding citizens of the United States of America, by a Chinese mob, might be obtained and produced by you, as intimated in your letters addressed to this Consulate as long ago as October 28th, and November 1st, 1882; might be urged as my reasons for delaying to ask your immediate attention to the adjustment of a matter, which, as an act of justice to the good name of the Government and Nation you have long had the honor to represent, should no longer remain unsettled.

Your Excellency's communication of the 19th of January, 1883, (regretting your inability to receive the Admiral) informs me that the present condition of your health may make it necessary for me to transfer this deplorable transaction to other and higher officials of our respective Governments; unless you can have the actual facts in the case promptly, fairly, justly, and honorably acted upon, either by yourself, or by those under your authority.

By a recent mail from America, published judicial proceedings were received, in regard to the arrest, trial, conviction, sentence, and imprisonment, of two American or European sailors, within one week after they committed the crimes of robbing and maltreating two Chinese laundry-men in the City of New York; from whom less than fifty dollars was taken by the robbers.

One of those robbers entered upon his term of five years, and the other upon his term of fifteen years' imprisonment; while here in China, in one of the Provinces over which presides a Viceroy, whose large experience in public affairs, and whose high personal and official character, should enable him to act without hesitation or restraint, in the interests of justice and honor, American citizens, holding passports issued at Peking, and duly authenticated by high officials of the two (Chinese and American) Governments, were pelted and stoned by a Chinese mob, at Ng Chow on the 29th of November, 1882; after the property was looted, and the property leased, and lawfully occupied by one or more of them and their friends, had been pillaged and destroyed; without any action on the part of the Chinese authorities during several succeeding moons, except procrastination, under the plea of seeking further information.

Having thus presented to Your Excellency's consideration the property features of the outrages in Ng Chow; I now respectfully call your attention to the cruel, unjustifiable, and atrocious assault, by a Chinese mob at that place, on the 29th of November, 1882; when about one thousand lawless persons (alleged to have been hired and paid by the Gentry) incited by inflammatory placards against foreigners and missionaries violently and wickedly assaulted, with brick-bats, stones, and other missiles, two highly respected and justly esteemed American citizens; Reverend E. Z. SIMMONS, Baptist Missionary; and Reverend H. V. NOYES, Presbyterian Missionary; both of whom "peaceably attending to their affairs," were bearers of passports, issued by the Legation of the United States of America at Peking; and duly authenticated by Your Excellency, as Acting Viceroy of the Two Quangs—thus showing that the Ng Chow Gentry and mob not only disregarded American passports, and abused American citizens; but also treated Your Excellency's authority with censurable contempt.

Furthermore, Mr. SIMMONS was also bearer of a respectful, introductory, and commendatory communication, from this Consulate to His Honor, Tsea, at that time the Acting Magistrate in Ng Chow; who shared in the indignities at the hands of the turbulent mob, by having issued a Proclamation enjoining toleration and courtesy toward foreigners and missionaries; and for entertaining the proposition or idea of making restitution of, or reparation for, the property destroyed in October, 1882, which he had promised to do in the presence of witnesses. When neither American citizens with passports, or a Chinese Magistrate who would protect them from harm, can be allowed at that place, it becomes necessary to invoke the power of the Chinese Government for the enforcement of treaty stipulations. So highly are Messrs. SIMMONS and NOYES esteemed by the excellent missionaries of their own and other nationalities and denominations, that their united request, in writing, upon me, to earnestly and faithfully seek redress for the outrages perpetrated by the Ng Chow mobs, leaves a possibility to doubt that any refusal to make just reparation for, and restitution of, the property destroyed and pillaged; or any neglect of the Chinese authorities to bring the guilty outlaws and their abettors to merited punishment; and any failure to apologize to these two American citizens, Messrs. NOYES and SIMMONS, and their respected families, who were jeopardized and persecuted by the Ng Chow mob with stones and brick-bats, will be regarded by all civilized Nations as flagrant violations of treaty obligations; and wanton disregard of the mandates of honor and humanity.

Not only did the mob pursue, with dangerous missiles, those two unoffending American citizens, in Ng Chow; who held passports duly authenticated by Your Excellency; but the two house-boats, in which were the wives and families of Messrs. SIMMONS and NOYES, were broken by the blows of projectiles thrown by the mob; and efforts were made to prevent the escape of the assaulted Americans by obstructing the passage of their boats into the river, after numerous stones and brick-bats had made it impossible to remain on shore.

Mr. NOYES' appeal to Chinese soldiers who witnessed these violent acts with apparent satisfaction, were unavailing for protection from the mob.

These are well authenticated facts, which I have verified beyond all question or doubt. Specimens of the brick-bats thrown into the boats occupied by the families of these American citizens are now in Canton; and if this case cannot be adjusted here; it may, perhaps, open the eyes of the American and European Nations to the manner of treaty observance in China, to see those dangerous Ng Chow greetings, that were accorded to citizens of a friendly Nation under passports and treaties.

The people, generally, at Ng Chow, treated the American missionaries and their Chinese co-laborers kindly; and, even, throughout the day on which Messrs. SIMMONS and NOYES were so violently assaulted by a hired mob; the people, at large, received these Americans everywhere pleasantly; and freely dealt with them; and purchased books and reading matter upon mutually satisfactory terms; but at Ng Chow, as elsewhere, the chief difficulty has been on account of the prejudices and conspiracies of the Gentry, or the more educated class who have incited the populace to, and are believed to have paid the rabble for, violent acts of persecution against American missionaries and their Chinese co-laborers.

"Leong Lau Shi," the owner of the buildings destroyed, says that her domicile was finally pillaged and completely demolished on November 30th 1882, by the Gentry of Ng Chow, and men of official rank, in company with Tao soldiers. This accords with the testimony of Mr. NOYES and Mr. SIMMONS, as to the conduct of the soldiers and Gentry on the previous day. This is to be regretted and deplored, when in nearly all parts of the civilized world, educated men find so many points of agreement in the various systems of philosophy and religion; that even their disagreements are generously entertained and maintained according to their preferences and convictions, while conceding to one another the courtesy and right of private judgment; or the exercise of free choice of principles, that do not injure the communities in which they live; or jeopardize the stability of established Governments, for the maintenance of law and order, personal security and public tranquility.

To this commendable and beneficent system of intellectual hospitality, which may be termed the tolerance of enlightenment, may largely be attributed the present and increasing strength and influence of Germany, Great Britain, France, the United States of America and some other Countries of the Western Hemisphere, in arts, literature, and commerce.

As well might a Nation, in these days of activity, progress, discovery, and development, attempt to bar the windows of Heaven and shut out the light of the Sun; as to erect barriers against the illuminating power and genial influence of the intellectual forces of the World, in this remarkable era of progressive civilization and inter-national intercourse.

Your Excellency's honored namesake and distinguished relative, now creditably representing China at two influential Courts in Europe, has wisely appreciated, and recently set forth the importance and value of blending, with the lore and wisdom of the East, the knowledge and discoveries of the West; as recorded in his recent recommendation of educational institutions for China, in which should be combined the best systems of both Hemispheres.

What need of pressing further details upon Your Excellency's attention?

After waiting three months for promised information which it was hoped you would receive and communicate, as intimated in your letter of November 1st, 1882, in regard to the Ng Chow atrocities of October, 1882; and finding that instead of reparation, only further outrages were received by American citizens; it becomes necessary to bring these astounding and deplorable occurrences honestly and truthfully to your attention, by this letter, which has been delayed for verification of facts as detailed; and for improvement of your health.

Inasmuch as the entire Consular Corps at Canton; and the Admirals of France, Great Britain, Russia, and the United States of America, during their visits to this City, have, by reason of your prolonged illness, which is sincerely lamented, been unable to have audience with you, for a considerable time past; I avail myself of this opportunity to submit the Ng Chow outrages against American citizens to your consideration; with the hope that Your Excellency will promptly and honorably adjust these matters; and leave no distrust anywhere as to the observance of good faith and friendly relations between China and the United States of America, in respect to "American citizens and Chinese converts" while "peaceably attending to their affairs" in China.

Sincerely hoping that the "Chinese New Year," upon which we have entered, may bring the re-establishment of Your Excellency's health; and increasing prosperity to China;

I am, Sir,

With the highest consideration,

Very Respectfully Yours,

CHARLES SEYMOUR,

Consul of the United States of America.

THE VICEROY'S REPLY.

His Excellency, TSENG, the Viceroy of the Two Quangs, under date of February, 27th 1883, acknowledged the above communication; and he would direct the Prefect to cause the Magistrate of Ng Chow to issue Proclamation, strongly enjoining upon the Gentry to vigorously restrain their sons and brothers from causing any dispute or trouble with the Missionaries; with a view that peace might be maintained between natives and foreigners. The Viceroy also stated the Judge would be instructed to see that his instructions, shall be complied with; and furthermore he required the Prefect, Judge, and Magistrate that the Viceroy should be fully informed upon the occurrences at Ng Chow, preliminary to a settlement of the

is Rev. Frederick Y. H. Masters, an English Wesleyan Missionary. He wrote as follows

Canton.

(From our own Correspondent.)

May 9th, 1883.

The announcement of Sir Harry Parkes' appointment to Peking has given great satisfaction here. To those who have watched Sir Harry's career in the East, the prospect for Britishers in China is certainly more hopeful. He is not of "such stuff as dreams are made of;" too wide awake to be caught in the meshes of Chinese diplomacy; and two firm and rigid a character to be drawn through the sinuous passages of the Tsung-li Yamén. It is to be hoped that the dawdling, vacillating policy of later years has come to an end, and that British interests will be henceforth guarded with a more vigilant eye, and Treaty law maintained with a stronger hand. It is to be hoped we shall have no more unwritten treaties forced upon us, with embarrassing restrictions as to purchasing property, and fictitious clauses regulating the issue of passports, but that the spirit and letter of the real treaty will be carried out in its integrity.

In this province matters are far from satisfactory. The Viceroy Tsing is a timid, irresolute, old man, always in feeble health and averse to severe measures. The attitude of the gentry and literati to foreigners is utterly insolent and defiant. Magistrates are afraid of them or else wink at their doings. The Consuls here have a hard time, and seem practically powerless. It is at Peking where the lever needs to be applied and the screw put on. The Shui Han affair in October last, where an English Medical Missionary was twice fired upon from a Chinese junk, has been very feebly dealt with. The Viceroy, under Consular pressure, took the matter up. The would-be assassin was traced to his village, beyond which no further effort was made to apprehend him, because of the lawless character of the villagers, whom it would be dangerous to meddle with. Such a plea as this is simply miserable.

Inflammatory placards breathing forth threatenings and slaughters against the foreigners have been posted up in various parts of the province, undoubtedly the productions of the gentry class. It is satisfactory to learn that several of the Consuls have brought these fire brands to the notice of the Chinese officials and proclamations have been issued forbidding such attempts to stir up mischief. It is notorious, however, that nothing ever comes of this proclamation plan. The only wholesome caution would be the capture of some of these ringleaders; but this is never done or attempted.

The United States Minister at Peking is evidently determined to stand no nonsense. Foreigners in South China who have suffered outrages at the hands of Chinese mobs will be glad to learn that the Rev. W. K. McKibben, of Swatow, who suffered from Chinese vandalism about a year and a half ago, has just had his full claim paid by the Chinese authorities—thanks to the Hon. John Russell Young, who took the matter

THE CHINA MAIL

up and brought it to a just settlement. A gentleman who recently returned from Peking to Hongkong is authority for the statement that business of this nature has not been allowed to be pigeon-holed to death by the present American Minister. Bravo, Mr Russell Young!

It will be remembered that the European and American Missionaries of various denominations in Canton united last December in an urgent call upon the United States Consul at Canton to seek redress for the damages sustained by the American Baptist Mission in the pillage and destruction of their Chapel and dispensary at Ng Chau; and for the subsequent assault upon two American Missionaries, Messrs Simmons and Noyes, by a violent mob armed with stones and brickbats. It was requested that the matter should be taken up as a test case involving the rights of Missionaries and Missions under treaty regulations. Six months have passed and these troubles remain unsettled, as also does the case of a similar destruction of Mission property at Ng Chau twelve years ago! The general impression was that these outrages of October and November last would be dealt with on the old *laissez faire* principle. This, however, is not the case. Mr Consul Seymour is not the man to allow the case to suffer from neglect, and he deserves all praise for his steady and persistent efforts to get justice done. Enquiries as to the present condition of this important case and its probable results have elicited information that enables me to state that it is now receiving unremitting attention from Mr Seymour, and that owing to the prolonged illness of the Viceroy, the whole Ng Chau case will probably be transferred to Peking shortly for adjustment and settlement by the American Minister, who will no doubt deal with this affair with the same firm phand.

The late Hoppe Tsun, who used to be very fond of visiting Government House in Governor Hennessy's days, has come sadly to grief. According to the *Pekin Gazette* that official has been degraded three steps. Degradations in his official accounts was only one item. "His curtain was thin and he repaired it not." (帷薄不修). In other words this High Officer had not ordered his household aright and his family life revealed misdemeanours such as are not so much as named among Gentles. One of the Censors who received enormous bribes from Tsun to keep silence has been dismissed the Imperial service. Truly *facilis descensus averni*, but to retrace a step is a work and a labor.

The Straits.

SINGAPORE.



No. 27 and sept 5/83.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.



June 15-1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

*Hon. A. A. Ades,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*AcK'g No. 14, Dated April
20-1883, and Circulars.*

SYNOPSIS.

Rent and Accounts.

N^o 87

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 15. 1883

~~Mr. A. A. Allen~~

Chief Clerk, Dept. of State

Washington D. C.

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Dispatch No. 14, dated 20. April 1883, which was evidently written under a misapprehension of facts, upon the examination of which, you will doubtless perceive, that, in suspending my account for contingent expenses, for the fourth quarter of 1882, under the impression that my charge and voucher for rent paid, \$350.00, for half year, from August 1882 to Feb. 1883, covered and included a month and a half of rent from Aug. 1882 to Sept. 30/82, paid by, and alluded to, my predecessor, Mr. May, you have done me injustice, by some one's stupidity.

2

An inspection of Mr. Nye's accounts, as rendered to the State Department and approved, shows that he paid, charges sent voucher for, and was allowed Eighty seven & ⁵⁰/₁₀₀ Dollars for "rent to August 15-1882 under old lease" as per voucher d. 2, rendered with a/c Order \$87, for 1/4 year ending Sept. 30, 1882. And in his ~~rendered~~ on Oct. 30, 1882, as well as the foot of his ~~rendered~~ to Sept. 30, 1882, Mr. Nye definitely mentioned that the rent would be due and payable semi-annually, Feb 15, 1883 and Aug 15, 1883, according to leases made by his predecessor and himself - Messrs. Simson & Co., of Canton, who held a lease of ten or more years from the owner of the building (residing in England) ^{having} ~~the~~ sublet or sub-leased it to D. Carrow and Mr. Nye, insisting on old dates.

3

And, now, as the subject of "Rent" is under consideration, I may, perhaps, be permitted to acknowledge receipt of Circular dated January 9th 1883, with an explanatory ditto of March 22nd 1883, "to prevent the misconception of the intention" of the former, on the theme of "Rent"; which, doubtless, has elicited many spirited dispatches from aggrieved Consuls, who feel they have just cause to remonstrate against what, with a full knowledge of the subject, as applied to Consular Service in Asia, must, I believe, be generally regarded as "hide-bound" policy, entirely injurious to public or national interests; and while curtailing the efficiency and usefulness of the Consulates, is exceedingly humiliating and discomfiting to faithful Consuls, who are endeavoring to maintain the honor and good name of the Nation, in whose service they are laboring in countries which are so full of disadvantages to foreigners, that nearly all European governments fully recognize the propriety and expediency of enabling their Consular Officers to meet the exigencies of a tropical climate & social caste.

7/

In China, as in Japan, India, and other Eastern Countries, hotels and boarding-houses are so scarce and miserable, that respectable tourists, under the protection of letters of introduction and commendatory cards, are sheltered, fed, and lodged, in the private domicils of Europeans and American residents; who generously and kindly extend such entertainment and hospitality as they know will conduce to the safety and comfort of strangers in a strange land.

Every building is erected for a special purpose, for actual use and occupation; and an empty building would be so much wasted property. The business offices and domicils are together under one roof. The severity of heat for half of the year forbid exposure in going hither & thither to and from meals and business at points widely separated.

In Canton every business firm, having transactions that requires attention of the Consulate, resides on the European "reservation" or Island known as the "Thamesen", where the Consuls have the only means of ^{reaching} existence.

The Canton Consulate had so long been a fatherless concern, that, instead of being in "good running order" for residents and non-residents, requiring consular attention; it had been passing from one temporary substitute to another; with such frequent changes, and without any appearance of responsibility or permanence, until those who required the protection of the Consulate found no matter of consequence involving American citizens' rights or interests, could be brought to completion or successful result; while the British, German, & other Consulates were vigorously maintained by their respective Governments; to the evident prejudice & hazard of American interests & honor.

During my sojourn here the Consulate has been open for business from 8 A.M. to 6 P.M., earlier or later if required.

51
 If business results demonstrate the value of a Vice Consulate, and American citizens immediately and personally interested in its efficiency, mutually testify to the soundness of its functions, my justification will be established, with or without the acknowledgements of my Superior Officers.

However, in vacating the old building occupied as Third Consulate, and now occupied as the French Consulate, I assumed expenses considerably in excess of my rent allowance for the present Consulate; as, in exchange for the old building at a rental of eight hundred and forty dollars per year, I am paying an additional bonus of two hundred dollars to the present owner of the building now occupied as U.S. Consulate, besides incurring other expenses to nearly \$200 more for wire doors, panika, & other necessities.

2

There is positively no other vacant, obtainable, or available, or suitable, or adequate building to be had at this time.

The French Consul, who occupies our former building, besides making the necessary repairs, is required to pay one thousand dollars rent per year after Aug 15/83.

The entire building now occupied as U.S. Consulate is devoted to no other purpose or business outside of the actual requirements of the Consulate.

Besides the necessities of the Consul, and of those who have business with the Consulate, it is absolutely necessary that the Chinese Interpreter, the Chinese Writer, the Chinese messengers, and those who are in waiting for official papers, shall be comfortably accommodated during business hours.

If the Interpreter & the Writer have to go to their homes for meals and refreshments, little would be accomplished during the day.

89

Furthermore, the State Department, in Red Book Regulations, prescribes formalities & courtesies to be observed on occasions of visiting the ships of the U.S. Navy; and also indicates exchange of courtesies between its Consular officers and those of other Nations; and also enjoins reciprocity & interchange of social amenities between U.S. Consuls and the local authorities, and officials of the country, to which the Consuls are accredited. The ordinary & reasonable demands of American visitors and tourists are of a nature that would be satisfied by a perusal of the horrible and disgraceful oath the Consul is required to take before his account for rent is allowed by the Government which expects hospitality and courtesies worthy of gentlemen among gentlemen.

9

Apart from the debilitating influence of the prolonged and almost uninterrupted heat of the tropical climate upon European American residents, ^{for the year,} whose only safety is in the strict observance of all available sanitary aids and regulations, it will be found that even in the best constructed buildings, and even with the greatest care and cleanliness, it is impossible to keep one's wardrobe from moulding and spoiling with dampness; or to exclude from these peculiarly constructed & thoroughly mutilated buildings, enormous Centipedes, as long as this page is wide; huge spiders and tarantula, too large to be carried by a coffee can; cock-roaches and beetles of great size and insatiable voraciousness, consuming books, boots, shoes, garments, or anything short of coarse plug-tobacco; lizards in great abundance; and worst of all, the invincible & invulnerable white ants, which perforate boxes & trunks, & actually gnawed off six feet of your flag-staff, so that a stick of timber a foot in diameter had not the strength of a common walking-stick. Vice Consul Nye, and myself, with the interpreter,

Recently had occasion to overhaul the
 Archives of this Consulate for the discovery
 of some valuable papers deposited with
 the Consul a dozen years ago, involving title
 to valuable property in Canton, that has been,
 & is likely to be, subject of severe litigation;
 and we found "the iron box" in which they were
 placed for security, is as porous as a sieve, and
 not so good as a second-hand sheet-iron
 stove as a depository. Its contents were
 much damaged and partially destroyed.
 With this, I send for your inspection
 a fly-leaf cut from the Consulate's
 book entitled - "Register of American
 Citizens", as a specimen of the condition
 of some of your archives here.

The absurdity of strictly applying
 to the Consulates in China, & especially
 in Southern China, the same regulations
 in regard to buildings, that are applied to the
 Consulates in Europe and America,
 must be obvious, if one will consider the
 differences in the conditions under which
 Consuls perform their official duties.
 The State Department should be just to its
 servants; and discriminate between Asia & Europe,
 as to the regulations for their efficiency.

Every drop of water or drink, or used in cooking, and every pound of ice consumed, are brought a distance of ninety miles.

But and mutton, fit for the table of a civilized being, cannot be obtained from any point nearer than Shanghai, 800 miles north.

Nearly all of the canned food is brought from remote countries on the opposite side of the globe.

Meals at miserable hotels cost \$1.50 each.

Sleep cannot be obtained at any price, except by protection from ravensous mosquitoes, & good circulation of air, which requires isolated buildings and high rooms.

The same room in a building may not be fit to occupy for more than a part of the day.

Persons seeking protection from the Consulate, and entitled to full and fair hearing, are always saved from the perplexity of stating their grievances in presence of Chinese or other attendants, or attaches, by using the best rooms of the Consulate, secluded from interference or interruption.

Hence the necessity for several ample rooms in the Consulate.

12

Of this entire establishment, even to my bed-room, and dining room, in both of which I am compelled to do considerable writing, is devoted to the Consulate; and to no other business.

Within a radius of six miles, it is estimated, there are one three millions of Chinese.

Within ten or twelve miles of Canton, is a City named "Fat Chan", unknown to the Geographers and atlas-makers, with a population as large as that of Philadelphia. A dense & muddy population surrounds.

About one third of a million of wretched people are floating in boats, up and down the river, day and night, passing within one hundred yards of the Consulates, and the business-places and domicils of European and American residents.

No man of common prudence would, for a moment, entertain the idea of leaving his premises or property here unoccupied, unprotected, or unguarded, against such a multitude of wretches, whose

13

necessities would be their
justification for pillaging the
property of hated "foreign-devils".
Now, in view of the facts,
is it not clear that the State Depart-
ment should promptly and justly
recognize the peculiar conditions
under which the U.S. Consuls exist
and labor, especially in Southern
China, and particularly in
Canton; & exempt them
from the operation of the "Rent
Circulars" of January 9th and of
March 22nd 1883, and the awful
Oath that was prescribed as
the condition on which rent-accounts
will be audited and allowed?

Some of the Consular families
have already been dispirited by those
unwelcome documents; and other
families of Consuls will also return
to America, instead of contributing,
by their presence and influence,
to the usefulness, efficiency,
and respectability of your Consulates.

14

When I broke up one of the best equipped homes in my state, and brought my wife and daughter to Canton, it was my determination, as it has been my endeavor, to make this an efficient and creditable Consulate; but, in conformity with the policy indicated by the State Department, they will return this month to the U.S.

Hoping, as an act of common justice to the U.S. Consulates in Asia, that a fair consideration of the "rent question", by the light of elicited facts, may result in the modification, or withdrawal of the obnoxious rate and circulars; and assuring the State Department that in a country where American and European comforts are not obtainable, due discrimination should be observed in the regulations for the Consulates;

I am, Sir,

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul.



Aug 15/83



No. 28

London

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Aug 16/883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adee,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

*Further Acknowledgment of,
and reply to, No 14, of
State Department;*

SYNOPSIS.

*As to Express at Canton
Agency.*

No. 28

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 16th 1883

Mr. Schiller,

Third Asst. Sec. of State

Washington D.C.

Sir,

I have the honor, in further acknowledgment of, and reply to State Department's Despatch No. 14, dated April 25th 1883, to state that the account rendered by the U.S. Consular Agency at Swatow for 1/4 yr ending Dec 31st, (during which only three dollars were there received for business and fees,) did seem to me so unreasonably large, that I wrote to the U.S. Consular Agent, and also to the State Department, as to the necessity of cutting down expenses at that Agency;

which I characterized as "a swindle,"
and "little short of robbery"; but the
Frontier Official, & the Official
of the U.S. Consulate flew
around further whether Lyford
Shanghai and Canton; and
the McKinnel General Cheshire
in charge, came to their sense;
and the State Department gave
no attention to my dispatches
Nos. 14 & 15; but disapproved
of my proposed reduction of
Expenses at Swatow.

I thought then & think now,
that American citizens and
American interests have been
sacrificed, wickedly & needlessly,
at Swatow, under Williams' policy.
I shall send your demand for expla-
nation of account to the U.S. Consul at Swat.

I am, Sir, Very Respy,

Charles Seymour
McKinnel



ack
Aug 15/83

No. 29

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Imm Co-483

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Atty Nos 15 + 16.
and Dictionary

SYNOPSIS.

No. 29.

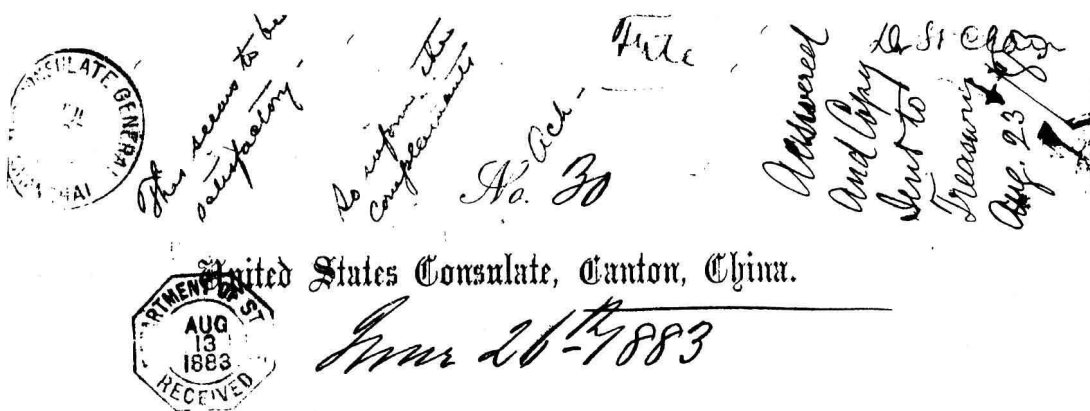
United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 20th 1883

H^r. A. A. Addes,
Third Asst. Sec^y of State,
Washington D. C.
Sir—

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of State Department's dispatches Nos 15 and 16, of Apr²⁴/83. Thanks for No 16, and for the Webster's dictionary, which has been received. William's dictionary, as authorized, will be purchased at Shanghai. These two books will add much to the resources of the Consulate.

I am, Sir, Very Resp^{tly}
Your obedient servant,
Charles Seymour
W Council



FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adee,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Acknowledging No. 17.

SYNOPSIS.

Enclosing explanations of
Herr Carlowitz & Co. of Canton.

N^o. 30

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 26th 1883

H^{on}. A. A. Odce

Third Asst. Sec^y of State

Washington D. C.

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of State Department's despatch N^o. 17, dated May 2nd 1883; and to hand you enclosed statement of Messrs Carlowitz & Company, showing that the Consul's Certificate, N^o. 189, of Services dated and certified February 17th 1883, was in duplicate; and that I received for the same, Consul's fee, Two Dollars and fifty cents; although Carlowitz & Co.

erroneously stated the amount differently
in the Invoices; which they have already
explained to the Consignees.

Hoping this will be deemed
satisfactory explanation,

I am, Sir,

Very Respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour
A. Council

Two Enclosures

viz:

Statement of Messrs. Carlsmith & Co for State Dept.

" " " " " " Treasury Dept.

both dated 25th June 1883.

CANTON, 25th June 1883.

CARLOWITZ & Co.
CANTON, HONGKONG,
SHANGHAI.

The United State Consul at Canton, Mr. Chas. Seymour having this day called our attention to Consular Invoice N. 189 certified by him, on declaration of Mr. Chas. Bore of our firm, under date of 7th Feb'y 1883. we have much pleasure in stating that the Invoice was certified in a duplicate, for which we understood the Consul fee was Six Dollars fifty cent gold (\$6.50 gold), but the U.S. Consul received only Four Dollars fifty cent gold (\$4.50 gold) for this certificate, as we have already explained to the Consignees of the Merchandise.

Carlowitz & Co.

For State Department.



No. 31

162
Oct 17 1883



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 27-1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Further Reply to No. 14.

SYNOPSIS.

Enclosing, as required, vouchers
from U. S. Consular Agency at Swatow,
for 1/4 yr ending Dec. 31-1882.

N^o. 31

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 27-1883

H^{on}. A. A. Ades ,

Third Asst. Sec^y of State ,

Washington D. C.

Sir -

I have the honor, in
further acknowledgement of, and reply
to, State Department's despatch N^o. 14,
dated April 20th 1883, to hand your
herewith, as required, vouchers in
"Triplicate" and "Quadruplicate",
from U. S. Consular Agent at Swatow,
for the 1/4 yr. ending Dec^r. 31st 1882;
of which "original" and "duplicate"
vouchers were received and trans-
mitted with account as and when
rendered .

W

It should be stated that the nearest Chinese Official with whom Consular Officers can communicate from Swatow is a long distance (I believe 15 miles) away; and this necessarily occasions expense and inconvenience.

The M. Consular Agency at Swatow now obtains its necessary supplies of Stationery &c from this Consulate.

I am, Sir,

Very Respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour
M. Consul

Enclosures
Account of M. Consular Agent, with
Vouchers in duplicate
for 4th & 4th qrs of 1882 as
required by State Dept.,
from Swatow Agency.

agf
/m



Mottawes

*ac
90710/83*

No. 32

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

July 14/1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Transmitting Quarterly Account

SYNOPSIS.

Account, Vouchers & Returns.

No. 32

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

July 14th 1883

Wm. A. Adee

Third Asst. Sec. of State
Washington D.C.

Sir

I have the honor to hand you
herewith Account, with Vouchers, for
1/4 yr ending June 30th 1883; and
also enclose Aggregate Return of
Official or Travelling Fees for fiscal
year ending June 30th 1883,

I am, Sir, Very Resp^tl,
Your Obedient Servant

Charles Seymour
A. Consul

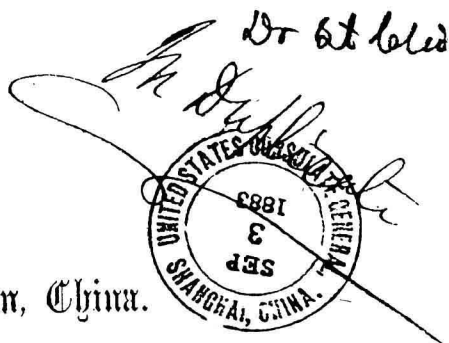
Enclosures

1/2 Rent & Misc. Expenses } apt
Aggregate Return Fees. } free
Envelope with 10 Vouchers } apt
Canton Summary } file
Santon Summary }

Very interesting



No. 33



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

July 31. 1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adco,

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

Commerce.

Duplicate sent to Stat Sec.

SYNOPSIS.

Trade Memoranda.

No. 33.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

July 31st 1883

H^{on}. A. A. Adee,

Third Asst. Sec^y of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir—

I have the honor, in compliance with requirements of the Department of State, to make the following report on Commerce at Canton; at Ports where U. S. Consular Offices are established, in connection with, or under jurisdiction of, this Consulate; and in Southern China; with a general summary of the prominent features of business in the East, as affecting American interests.

2/

Canton a Business Center.

Canton maintains its long established position and character, as the chief point of supply and distribution, of and for a large and populous portion of Southern China; notwithstanding the transfer of merchandise to and from the sea-going vessels engaged in foreign trade, generally occurs at the British free port of Hong Kong.

These facts are partly made apparent by reference to statistics showing tonnage and value of merchandise, and the volume of business movements, to and from Canton, by fleets of steamers, regularly plying between this and other ports.

From Department of Transportation and Revenue

That these steamers do not embrace the large amount of merchandise conveyed between Canton and the sea-coast

by native craft, known as the "Chinese junk", which are innumerable.

The extreme difficulty, or impossibility, of obtaining full and accurate trade returns in Southern China, will be appreciated, when it is understood, that, in the absence of any Custom House at Hong Kong, there is no date or record of the imports or exports at that principal sea-port for a coast of over a thousand miles in extent; and that the "Imperial Maritime Customs" at Canton have nothing whatever to do with the collection of duties on imports or exports that come on by "native craft," or the numberless Chinese junk; whose business is reported and transacted at and along the line of native Custom-houses, where tonnage-dues and duties are adjusted by and with native officials or contractors, who, by paying a certain sum per annum for the revenues of a prescribed district, floundered dimensions, conduct that business upon confidential terms.

There is positively no record of those transactions preserved from one day to another. The actual results of each day are pocketed, without any details for inspection.

The Imperial Maritime Customs Department is conducted throughout the Empire of China by salaried foreigners, at the head of whom is Sir Robert Hart, of England, with a salary of Fifty Thousand Dollars per annum. The Commissioners, Assistant Commissioners, and entire staff of officials under him, are foreigners, among whom are several very competent, efficient, and highly esteemed Americans - the Commissioner for the Port of Canton, being a New Yorker, and graduate of Yale College; while one of the two Assistant Commissioners in the Imperial Maritime Customs at Canton is a native of Massachusetts, and graduate of Williams College; - his Associate Commissioner being a Parisian; as was his predecessor, recently transferred to Shanghai.

The collection of the uniform duty of five per cent ad valorem (or its equivalent) on imports and exports, being thus entrusted to a judiciously selected and thoroughly trained Corps of well-paid foreigners, whose transactions are conducted and recorded in a business-like manner, the Chinese Government derives the legitimate revenue from the business entrusted to the Imperial Maritime Customs Department; which, like all other branches of public service in China, strict rules are observed in regard to continuance and promotion of officials, with retirement and pension after a certain period.

Where the conditions of transportation favor the employment of large fleets of native boats, ^{as is the case between Canton and Hong Kong}, the Chinese Government has found it more satisfactory, in point of revenue, to "farm out" the collection of duties on merchandise conveyed by junks and other native craft, to contractors, who thus become unsalaried detectives to prevent smuggling.

Those who are inclined to laugh at this double-barrelled arrangement for

collection of revenue should take a second look at the Chinese plan, which, while indicating unlimited confidence in foreign officials, makes the native branch of the revenue system not only self-supporting and remunerative, but actually free from expense for a force of detectives who make smuggling a hazardous business.

It is so unlike the revenue systems of other countries, that these facts should be taken into consideration, when discrepancies in statements appear from comparison of what are sometimes approximate estimates, instead of reliable records, and authentic returns.

Those who have attempted to investigate closely into personal or official affairs of the Chinese, and especially into the privacies of their business operations, have found that their ability to maintain secrecy is unlimited.

Commercial Features and Items.

In the following commercial items of Canton, the imports and exports of "treasure" are not included, and no mention is made of the imports and exports by Chinese junks or other native vessels or craft; respecting which, no appropriate or accurate estimate can be made as to their number, or aggregate of tonnage employed; although of sufficient magnitude to give employment to many thousands of navigators; and of enough value and importance, to justify each vessel in carrying from six to twenty loaded cannon, to guard cargo from river-pirates.

Protection of a similar nature is observed on all of the river steamers, between Canton and the two ports of Hong Kong and Macao, the officers being thoroughly armed by revolvers; and the first-class passenger saloons being well equipped with pistols, cutlasses, and other efficient weapons, to guard against any attempts to capture vessel or cargo. Armed guards are constantly on duty.

57

All imports and exports per steamers between Canton and Hong Kong are entered at the Custom House in Canton as coming from or going to Great Britain, or a British port, for the uniform import or export duty of five per cent, or its appropriate equivalent; the classification of imports and exports, according to the various nationalities concerned, is beyond human reach.

All merchandise, including cotton and woollen goods, imported, appear in the Custom House tables by specified numbers of pieces and weights, with aggregate values, without reference to yards or measurements.

Comparing returns of imports and exports for several successive years, there seems to be an absence of marked fluctuations, or increase and decrease, in the various items of commerce; although, available ~~indicia~~ statistics indicate a steady growth of Chinese manufactures.

It seems to be the aim or purpose, if not the policy, of the Chinese, to give employment to their people, and to develop a national condition of self-reliance, & thorough independence, as to a supply of articles

of security & comfort; as will appear by an inspection of the range and diversity of skilled labor in Canton, and other Chinese Cities; and by an examination of the leading items of import and export. 9

No man, with a business eye in his head, can go through the streets of Canton, without being profoundly impressed by the variety and multiplicity of its industries.

Inspections of Chinese Merchants' stocks of merchandise reveal the fact that British, American, and other foreign manufactures, are kept indiscriminately, for sale; and while the larger portion of such foreign supplies come from England, neither seller or buyer seems to know or care where they came from, or whether they go.

Little distinction is made by Chinese between American, Britons, Germans, Frenchmen, Russians, Scandinavians, Italians, Spaniards, or the various nationalities of the Western Hemisphere, except the Portuguese, who are special objects of Chinese hatred, on account of the loss of Macao; and there is less discrimination observed in regard to their respective productions.

107

Forgers are "barbarians"; whose
works are slowly bought, but quickly copied.

If Great Britain sells China and
other Nations in the East more
merchandise than is here sold by
any other country of the Western
Hemisphere, it is because she
is more largely represented by
British merchants and seamen
than any other country; and
by nearly as many as are found
from all other countries combined.

Out of 4,792 European merchants
and mercantile establishments and residents
in the Treaty Ports of China and Hong Kong,
about 2,300 are British; and as the
last mentioned port is thoroughly identified
with the Commerce of Great Britain;
this City of Canton, about eighty
miles distant, is, more than ^{any} other of
the Chinese Cities, affected by, or under the
influence of, the British commercial system.

Of the entire foreign Commerce at the Treaty
Ports in China, ~~estimated~~ at \$235,000,000.00
per annum, \$170,000,000.00 are claimed as British.

In the absence of authentic statistics, those figures
seem exaggerated, but are put forth to go unchallenged
as are many other commercial statistics, which become valid
by exaggeration. Gibraltar's claim to the Commerce of the Straits
or Egypt's claim to the Commerce of the Suez Canal, would not be more
than the pretensions of some Cities, ~~to~~ to commercial supremacy.

10

Tonnage.

The aggregate of tonnage, in 1882, of steamers, to and from Canton, reported at the Imperial Maritime Customs, was 1,850,000 tons; with an average of eight arrivals and departures for each business day of the year.

Only, thirty-five foreign sailing vessels, with an aggregate of 13,000 (13,000) tons, visited Canton during the year 1882.

The Capacity of the Chinese junks, running between Canton and the Sea, ranges from 70 to 150 tons each; and of those sailing between Canton and Upper parts of the River, from 35 to 75 tons each.

The arrivals and departures of these native vessels are variously estimated at from 500 to 700 per day.

Taking the lumber-measures as the basis of calculation; and fifty tons as a moderate average of capacity; the result is 25,000 tons per day; or 9,000,000 tons for the business days of the year.

Perhaps it might not be far wrong
to assume that one third of the
total of native tonnage is
located along the coast and
Gulf trade; and the other two thirds
to the interior and interior or
native commerce.

Thus, the tonnage estimate
would run about thus —

Coastwise	1,850,000 tons;
Foreign trade	13,000 tons;
Interior and Gulf	3,000,000 tons;
Having a grand total of	4,863,000 tons,
between the coast and foreign commerce.	

The estimate of the native has
been published, but it may be,
in the absence of authentic returns,
described an approximate estimate
of the tonnage between Canton and
the sea-board; and chiefly of the
nature of foreign commerce.

In getting at the magnitude
of the native tonnage, I have
had the assistance of Custom
House officials, whose observations
are entitled to confidence.

10
C

Passenger Traffic.

In 1882, the passenger traffic between Canton and Coast Ports, including ^{Hong Kong} and Macao, by steamers that reported at the Imperial Maritime Customs in Canton, amounted to about 700,000 passengers, only 5,000 of whom were foreigners.

This shows an average of over 2,200 passengers per day, for the business days of the year.

During the first half of 1883 ⁴⁸⁹ these steamboat passengers numbered 378,000—showing a decrease.

The passenger traffic between Canton and the interior cannot be accurately computed or stated, but, at a moderate estimate, the arrivals and departures of passengers at ~~the~~ Canton, by native boats plying between Canton and interior ports, will be 25,000 per day, or 9,000,000 per year; if we allow only fifty passengers on each of the 500 sampans arriving at and leaving port daily. Many of these native boats are crowded with passengers. This would indicate an active passenger movement.

Imports and Exports.

The total value of imports at the Imperial Maritime Customs in Canton, in 1882, was about \$19,500,000.00; about one third of which was entered as from foreign countries; and about two thirds from native ports.

The exports from Canton, in 1882, were valued at about \$24,500,000.00; of which about three fourths went to foreign countries; and about one fourth to native ports.

The total value of imports and exports, in 1882, was about \$44,000,000.00 at Canton; exclusive of shipments and receipts by the native vessels; whose business is not permitted to obtain record or publicity, as they report only to the Native Customs Houses. Here I omit reference to importations of Opium at Canton, for it is so extensively smuggled, as to leave me without any accurate statistics as to quantities or valuations; although the amount consumed is almost fabulously large; offsetting nearly, if not wholly, the native exports of tea and raw silk.

Cotton Imports.

11
\$33.10.10.10.10.10.
7.7.7.7.7.7.

British trade journals, in reviewing the results of forcing Chinese and other Asiatic markets with manufactured goods during the year 1882, have spoken emphatically and discouragingly of the pernicious system of overstocking the actual needs and legitimate demands of these countries; whose markets broke down under the pressure of an excessive supply, and thus entailed losses on shipments that were not required, or called for, by these over-supplied markets.

This is only another version of misapprehension of the old European manufacturing policy of making or submitting to sacrifices based on surplus stock, rather than to distort valuations of merchandise in their home markets.

This being so, it only becomes necessary to know, that, if Americans did not have the lion's share of sales of cotton manufactures in China, this trade is subject to such circumstances as to make the price of questionable value — the chief consideration.

Woolen Imports

Of Woolen imports, Canton, last year, received goods to the value of \$465,000.00; the larger items being "Medium Cloth", "Herring Stripes", "Unionable" & "English Camlets".

Other Imports

Jade stones form the third largest item of foreign imports, to the value of \$345,000.

Little-fish, of the value of \$288,000 stands fourth on the import list.

Metals valued at \$260,000 for the fifth item in importance among imports from foreign countries.

Porcelain, mostly from America, but partly from Japan, stands sixth among foreign imports.

Less than \$1,000 worth of machinery; and scarcely \$1,000 in Cutlery and Hardware, were among the foreign imports of Canton in 1882.

American clothes are among the most plentiful of imported articles; and seem to have no formidable rivals in Canton. Their honest faces, abundantly displayed in the windows and on the shelves of numerous shops in Canton seem to welcome every American as an old friend; and it is a pleasure to hear suited testimony as to their superior quality, reliability,

longevity of American clothes in Canton shops, one finds thousands of American flags and manufactures, but the Chinese being familiar with glass, are mostly proud of the permanent value of their own manufacture.

Kerosene Oil

Kerosene Oil, which was very rapidly becoming
popular in Canton, and throughout China, was
one of the most successful and profitable of
American exports to this country, or vicinity;
where its value was high and was becoming well
established, that a Chinese oil syndicate
was formed last year, and obtained control
of the importations of that article into China,
and by paying a fixed sum into the Po-
sterial Treasury, amount at \$31,500 per annum,
secured with their monopoly of the kerosene
oil trade, the right, or permission, or authority,
to levy, in addition to the ordinary duty, a special
tax of fifty cents per case, containing two cans, each
of which contains four kerosene, or five common gallons.
The effect of this monopoly tax has been to almost
destroy the trade in Kerosene Oil, since the special
tax went into operation about 1st October 1882, in
which year about 100,000 Cans of Kerosene Oil
were brought into Canton.

A remonstrance made through the British
Consulate at Canton, in behalf of an English
firm interested in this oil trade, elicited
the reply from the Chinese authorities that our
foreign merchandise has entered China &
become the property of Chinese merchants,
the revenues and amount of the tax there,
cannot be controlled by foreigners.

The imposition of this 'monopoly tax'
 on kerosene oil does not seem to be in
 harmony with any recognized system
 of any government for securing revenue.
 Those who went into the speculation
 have defeated their purpose, by
 making a severe levy upon an
 article of great utility; and with-
 standing the pretext that such a
 tax was necessary to prevent
 the American kerosene oil from
 driving the Chinese native ground-
 out oil out of existence; there can be no
 doubt that the introduction of kerosene
 oil into general use for lights, would
 cheapen the native oil, for the benefit
 of the Chinese masses, who use
 it largely, as an article of food; &
 in the preparation of various kinds
 of food, in lieu of butter; which is
 too expensive for the common people
 in Asia. This subject is worthy of attention.
 In the meantime, a serious
 injury is being inflicted on an important
 item of American commerce.

Food.

Considerable quantities of food are imported into Canton, and all Cities of China, for the use of Europeans and Americans.

Of these, those of the best, and most abundant, can be best obtained from California. Wheat oatmeal should also be

There are many other articles that might be brought from America instead of from Europe, if Americans can be induced to comply with the requirements of the principal countries and climates, not forgetting. Salmon is brought from the Pacific Coast in good order; again, codfish.

Butter from America is somewhat inferior, because it comes in the large packages; while butter from France, Germany, Italy, and even from New Zealand (which is excellent) is available at all times of the year, at about half the cost of the former, in the good and the present case.

Cheese from Switzerland, upon arrival, is far richer, and more palatable and nutritious, than cheese from any other country; but so much is lost by exposure to this climate, that merchants are compelled to throw away enough to make it necessary to sell only at about 45% of the

Small classes, where the individuals
and settled as a family, those that are
towards the interior, well cared, and
separately secured and assigned to
would command preference, as a liability
to loss by damage would exist in shop or house.
These and others, if carefully cared, and
placed against the fire, by being placed, not
in the central passage, but on an air tight box,
by itself, would have preference over ordinary
ones of that kind, valued at 45 lbs per 100.

[illegible]

Exports.

Canton exported last year ~~about~~ ^{over} \$12,000,000 of raw silk, valued at over \$12,000,000. Its trade with India is today on a larger scale than heretofore, as the success of the "Silk-Condition House" at Canton has become so well recognized in European, American, and Indian markets, and a correctly managed institution, that unlimited confidence is reposed in the certificates of condition weight of raw silk for export to India. It is also well known that the quality of the raw silk has improved, and the number of Chinese dealers, who have within some years become convinced of its superiority, is increasing, and a correct standard of weight and condition, which will give character to the raw silk, is being established. The value of the total raw silk exports was now \$12,000,000, and about one third of the total was of raw silk.

About one fifth of Canton's raw silk exports went to the United States, India, France, and England, and Germany, took the greater portion, or ^{nearly} five fifths of all.

19

The stands second on the export list of Canton, with a valuation of \$2,500,000.00. Sugar stands third as to valuation, with exports to the amount of about \$1,250,000.00. Hatting exports from Canton in 1892, at the value on which export duty was paid, were valued at \$638,500 (=425,623 Taels); but the U.S. Consular invoice, for hatting exports to the United States show a valuation of about \$900,000.00; and should thus stand fourth on the list of Canton exports.

Pine Crackers were exported to the value of \$537,000; two fifths of which went to the United States. Cassia Exports reached \$444,000.00. Clothing, Cotton and silk, mostly for native use, were sent from Canton, to the value of \$333,000.00.

Tobacco Exports from Canton amounted to \$320,000.00.

Bangles, or glass ornaments, of Canton manufacture, were exported to the value of \$325,000.00;

Brass Buttons also to the value of \$260,000.00. Both bangles and buttons go principally to India.

Medicine and opium valued at \$300,000.
 Canton Prisoners and sweet-meats,
 mostly for English soldiers and
 ships, are exported to the value of \$100,000.
 Human hair, to the extent of over
 90,000 pounds (over 450 tons) was
 among Canton's exports.

Silk, gunpowder, jade-stones,
 Red-moss, hemp, lead, cotton,
 glassware & silverware, ~~etc.~~ were
 among the considerable items of Canton's exports.

Economy and Industry.

Economy and industry are so
 universal among the Chinese people,
 that all other Nations will continue to
 find it a hard task to derive wealth
 from sales of their manufactures in the
 markets of China; and especially in Canton,
 where Economy and industry, combined
 with skilled labor, and abundance of capital
 for all legitimate business purposes, are more
 impervious than walls against any
 and all attempts to capture Chinese
 markets for American or European
 manufactures, the natives are impregnable.
 They need little, waste nothing, and do
 everything, save as temperate as frugal.

Opium Consumption.

An entire Steamship's cargo of Opium (35 Canton) ^{having, in some cases, been sold at a loss to the Government}
 In saying the Chinese waste nothing, I mean they utilize everything that can be made valuable; and can subsist and thrive on what is wasted by an ordinary citizen of North America; and while enormous quantities of Opium are consumed in China, the individual cases of distress and debilitation arising from its use, are so seldom known or mentioned, that one is led to believe the consumers are generally able to indulge in what they regard as a luxury.

Recently (July 1889), Medical Reports issued simultaneously by Officials in charge of British Hospitals at Hong Kong and Singapore, treated the subject of Opium consumption and its effects, as demonstrated by the experiences of habitual consumers, who have come under inspection, while confined in the institutions in charge of the said Officials, in connection with military prisons and other restraining establishments of the colonial governments.

it is proper to here give the information recently elicited in regard to the effects of opium.

22

The concurrent testimony of these two medical officers is unequivocally and emphatically against the prevalent impression as to injurious effects of opium-smoking, or smoking opium, and contrary to the testimony of the eminent Dr. John G. Kern, for the past twenty nine years in charge of the "Medical Dispensary, Army Hospital," in Canton, at which over 600,000 patients, with all kinds of diseases and ailments, have received treatment. Having personally interviewed the champions on both sides of this question, I am persuaded that their differences are partly due to different localities that have come under their observation and treatment, involving hereditary results from generations of victims; on one side; and sound constitutions and vigorous bodies, sustained by generous nutriment on the other side; and partly due to opposite directions of sympathy with nationalities peculiarly affected by the present traffic in opium.

23

The fact that two very competent and intelligent gentlemen, who stand so high in their honorable and useful profession, as Dr. Williams, of the Canton Hospital, and Dr. Dyce, Colonial Surgeon, at Hong Kong, stand with this long and valuable experience in the treatment of opium-smoking patients, be so wide apart in regard to their opinions as to the effects of smoking opium, may well command the attention; not only of their immediate constituents and communities, but of medical and scientific men throughout the world.

Dr. Dyce stated in his official report very fully, and in connection with tables classifying the results of his examination of patients of all classes, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1902.

"Table XI gives a list of opium-smokers 'recruited into the Bad, and reporting themselves' 'as consumers of one ounce (28 grains) and 'upwards of opium daily. It gives their age, number of years they have contracted the habit, their con-

" consumption of opium per day him "
 " might as starvation, and for the four "
 " following weeks, if detained as long "
 " one of them were ever permitted "
 " to have opium in any form, then "
 " who were sick were treated on the "
 " main of their cases, and opium "
 " is a terrible condition of disease. "
 " There have been no deaths among them, "
 " and I have not found any cases "
 " of disease among them that could "
 " be attributed to their indulgence in "
 " the habit of opium smoking. "
 " of Chinese patients, he says. "
 " The opium dealer "
 " is of all classes, the greatest smokers "
 " are men who can afford the expense, "
 " and are generally more fit than bus- "
 " inesmen, but I cannot find that opium "
 " smoking causes prostration in any way. "
 " * * * * " The heaviest smoker "
 " was the fourth on the list, his daily "
 " consumption being 15 ounces (or 150 "
 " grains), he had been an opium "
 " smoker for thirty years - he comes "
 " into jail weighing 107 lbs, does not "

(25)

"lose weight at all, but in three weeks"
 "rises to 110 lbs, at the end of the fourth week"
 "weighing the same. It appears to me"
 "that the opium smoker suffers much"
 "less from the enforced deprivation of the"
 "accustomed luxury at once than"
 "the tobacco smoker." * * * *
 "There is certainly no loss of"
 "sleep to any extent, for I have had"
 "many of them specially watched."
 " * * * * "In fact, the great"
 "principle of opium, morphia, in"
 "smoking, seems to remain, entirely"
 "it in no way affects the smokers."
 "Now, I have had opium-eaters under"
 "my care in jails in India and Assam,"
 "and among Khaleeji crews on board ships,"
 "and if they had been deprived of their opium"
 "as the opium smokers have been, the"
 "consequences would have been serious"
 "I can also speak from personal"
 "experience. I have eaten opium till"
 "I could consume half an ounce"
 "daily, and I can understand the"
 "fascination of that habit, and

126

"fully appreciate the difficulty"
 "of leaving it off. I have myself"
 "smoked three mace (thirty grains)"
 "of the farmer's prepared opium"
 "within an hour without the slightest effect."
 "I have watched them Europeans do the"
 "same, as they admitted to their friend-"
 "ment, with no effect either."
 "I counted their pulses and took"
 "and took their temperature,"
 "neither of which were altered"
 "by smoking in the slightest degree."
 "Three mace is equivalent to three"
 "pipes, and a pipe every five"
 "minutes is certainly more than"
 "a smoker would get through"
 "Had he to load for himself"
 "No opium smoker among the"
 "Chinese smokes with the idea of"
 "procuring sleep; being naturally"
 "tired he may take a pipe or two"
 "before going to sleep, but with no"
 "intention of keeping him to sleep."
 "An opium smoker visits a friend"
 "who offers him a pipe, and they"

(2)

"lie smoking, and chatting with
 "the pipe for hours, just as an
 "European offers wine to a friend".
 "The Chinaman does not expect
 "his visitor to go off to sleep, and
 "snore like a hog, any more than
 "the European expects his friend to
 "get drunk; and make a fool of himself."
 "That it is costly and expensive"
 "as a habit there is no denial,"
 "and in order to procure this luxury,"
 "sends a well-to-do man, the Chinaman"
 "must deplete himself and his family
 "of many comforts and necessities."
 "x x x x x" "A man of the Western"
 "view, who would take to such a
 "habit as opium smoking, would"
 "be a miserable object", x x x x
 "All I can see in it is a waste of
 "time and money".

Such is the testimony of
 a talented and skillful gen-
 tleman, whose observation and
 experience entitle him to
 speak clearly on this subject.
 In conversation, I found he sustained
 his statements by conclusive citations of facts.

Against that remarkable report
on Opium Smoking, the President
and General Superintendent of the
Lester Hospital, Dr. John G. Kerr,
raised objections, while coming in,
with much courtesy, that it was
not from "a scientific man,"
and that a dozen other men might
give the same opinion, and as weight
attach to it; and in reviewing Dr.
Byers' report, Dr. Kerr said,

"But scientifically, are the facts
given by Dr. Byers all that are
needed on which to base an opinion?
A conclusion? Thousands of
men have tried opium smoking
in Hong Kong. Tens of thousands
are trying it in China every day.
Is the evidence obtainable from
these men to be ignored? Will they
permanence the smoking of opium
absolutely without effect; and a
very similar practice?
I have had hundreds of

" Given another such
 " thorough in content, the
 " Medical Missionaries have lost
 " as many a voice. All of these
 " agree as to the evil effects, physical,
 " mental, and sanitary, of opium
 " smoking, but Medical Missionaries are
 " badly handicapped. So we will turn
 " at this juncture to our other
 " side. There are innumerable
 " facts at hand, bearing directly
 " on the point, and until a suf-
 " ficient number are collected,
 " sifted, and weighed by competent
 " and unprejudiced persons, any
 " conclusion as to the harmlessness
 " of opium smoking, founded
 " on the experience of a few per-
 " sons, is the essence of
 " scientific nonsense. "

" It is more than probable that
 " I shall still, as above intimated,
 " prepare an array of facts on this
 " subject, that will command world-wide
 " attention. Respectfully Submitted
 " Charles Heywood
 " U.S. Consul.

Commercial Agencies.

Amoy

Imports from foreign countries at Amoy in 1882 amounted to nearly \$9,000,000.00; the greater portion of which is credited to British ports, as the bulk of receipts came through Hong Kong.

Raw Cotton and Cotton Yarn are the largest items of foreign imports; which is a significant feature of foreign and domestic commerce in China.

Exports from Amoy in 1882 amounted to nearly \$3,000,000.00 - the largest item being Sugar.

Emigration of Chinese laborers, from Amoy and tributary country, to Singapore, Bangkok, and other ports between China & India, continues to increase.

Bangkok in Siam is the port to which the greater number migrated numbering 49,366 in 1881, and 71,301 in 1882.

The total tonnage of entries & cleared mail, at Amoy in 1882 was 1,149,832 tons.

31

King Chow

Exports from foreign countries and Hong Kong in 1882 amounted to \$1,500,000.00.

Opium leads the list of imports with the value of \$445,000.00.

Exports in 1882 to foreign countries and to Hong Kong amounted to \$1,500,000.00.

Sugar leads the list of exports, with the value of \$400,000.00; hides \$200,000.00; and

Serine \$150,000.00;

Seeds \$75,000.00;

and various other commodities export.

Shanghai

Shanghai is chiefly a fish raising station, fishing being the chief resource of the people, where fresh water fish is sent in junks to Shanghai and other Chinese markets.

Exports in 1882 were \$1,500,000.00, of which the two items of raw cotton and cotton yarn formed one half, or about \$750,000.00 in value.

Exports amounted to \$940,000.00; the largest item of export was liquid indigo, valued at \$240,000.00; followed by sugar valued at \$225,000.00; and diminished \$80,000.00; hides, \$80,000.00; Camellia \$40,000.00; Paper \$47,000.00; Cattle fish \$57,000.00; &c. &c.

The above three Consular Offices are embraced in the Consular District of Canton. Chab. Seymour

note death & publish instructions
to forward effects to Sept.
Hclair



No 34

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

August 8th 1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Death of an American citizen,
named Ira H. Crowell, at Pootung.

SYNOPSIS.

Whereabouts of family of deceased.

Personal Affairs of Deceased.

9: 134

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

August 8th 1883

Hon. A. A. Adair

Third Asst. Sec. of State

Washington D. C.

Sir

I have the honor to inform you that on the 9th July 1883, an American Citizen, named Geo. F. Crowell, a native of Vermouth, Massachusetts, where he was born in 1824; and recently First Officer of the "China Merchants Steam Navigation Company's" Steamer "Tonan"; died of Cholera, at Swatow, China.

The wife of the deceased is a sister of Mr. Oliver B. Bradford, with whom she is supposed to be now residing, in the United States. Mr. Bradford having,

for several years, as Clerk and Deputy, been connected with the U.S. Consulate General at Shanghai, according to the China Directories of 1868 and 1874.

Probably Mr. George Leonard, now of New York City, would know where Mr Bradford resides; or where his relatives dwell.

I hold, subject to the order or direction of the State Department, Ninety eight & 50/100 Dollars, amount of wages due to deceased; and a small box of personal effects, consisting of watch, chain, shirt-studs, ring, &c, with a purse in which are about three dollars - his apparel, and other articles in the room where he died, having been burned, to prevent contagion.

Yours, Sir, Your Obedient Servant

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul.

McConor
uses that the
from the letter
to the
them
fractional
35
85
on St Clair
UNITED STATES CONSULATE, Canton, China.
OCT 20 1883
August 25. 1883

FROM
Charles R. Seymour
Charles R. Seymour, U. S. Consul,
Canton, China.
TO
Hon. A. A. Alder,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Copy of letter to
page 10
Beaver Falls Pa
Mar 29/84

Subject.
Further Particulars
concerning Capt. Geo. H.
Cornell, deceased.

SYNOPSIS.

No. 35

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

August 25. 1899.

~~His Excellency~~

Chief of B. of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir.

I have the honor to request
correction of my dispatch of 1st inst.
by having it numbered 34 instead
of 35, which was my No. for U.S. Legation
translation for State Dept. members;
and also further to say in regard
to the death of Capt. Geo. W. Correll,
mentioned in that dispatch, that numerous
letters addressed to him have been received.
Many of them are doubtless from friends
in America; others from correspond-
ents in China may relate to business.

of deceased Lerowell. I would like
 instructions regarding them.

X I fear, by participating in this relation
 to these that friends of Capt. Lerowell,
 who was held in high estimation, has
 subscribed \$164.00, which sum
 may be increased, to defray the
 expenses of erecting a suitable
 tomb-stone or monument ~~in his grave~~.
 I cannot learn that the deceased
 left any other property than what
 I described in dispatch referred to.
 He had once returned from China
 with a fortune, which he lost in
 America. His return here to retrieve,
 and the sad result, make his case one
 of deep interest. The cholera is bad at Canton.

I have the honor to be,
 Sir, Very Respectfully,
 Your Obedient Servant,
 Charles Seymour,
 U.S. Consul



As 61 30 211
Mr. McMahon

No. 36

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Sept. 13. 1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

The Canton Riot.

SYNOPSIS.

No. 36

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

September 13th 1883

H^{on}. A. A. Addee,

Third Asst. Sec^y of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that foreign residents in Canton have had some interesting experiences recently; and may have further opportunity to take the measure of Chinese hospitality, before the "Western Powers" unite in obtaining some substantial security for the faithful observance of treaty stipulations, in regard to safety of their lives and property, while peacefully attending to their affairs.

27

Provocations, by irresponsible foreigners, from any part of the Globe outside of China, elicit vengeance and retaliation by Chinese, against the persons and property of foreigners, indiscriminately.

Outrages of this character by the Chinese mobs of outlaws, in Cities and Country places, are usually preceded by inflammatory placards posted on the walls, calling upon the populace to exterminate the foreign barbarians.

Canton has, within the present week, been the scene of incendiarism, pillage, and violence.

Property, belonging to foreigners, has been looted, pillaged, burned, or destroyed, or stolen, by a Chinese mob, on Shamoen, to the value of about two hundred thousand dollars, on Monday 10th instant.

1
3

Much of that property could have been saved from destruction by prompt and vigorous measures on the part of the authorities to suppress or disperse the mob. All of the property might have been saved if the authorities had prevented placards of an inflammatory nature against foreigners from having publicity on the walls of the streets for several days to incite the populace to outrages.

The immediate cause, or direct pretext for the action of the mob on Monday 10th inst was the censurable cruelty of a Portuguese watchman on the Steamer "Hankow," in knocking and kicking to death or unconsciousness a Chinaman who desired to embark on the Steamer before the prescribed ^{time} for the admission of passengers. The Chinaman fell into the river, and his dead body was raised from the water to the Boat or Steamer "Hankow."

4

Much bad feeling had existed among the Chinese against foreigners since an unfortunate occurrence in the Honan (Szechwan) side of the City of Canton on the morning of Sunday 12th of August 1883; when, after a night of dissipation, three European employees of the Imperial Maritime Customs, (one subject of Great Britain, one a native of Russia, and another a native of Norway) unjustly and needlessly created disturbance and caused a tumult by violent acts against Chinese, resulting in the death of a Chinese boy, & wounding a Chinaman and Chinawoman, by the use of fire arms. The Englishman who did the shooting while intoxicated has been ^{after} examination found or committed to jail for trial before the British Chief Justice for China & Japan.

The occurrence on St. Matthew on Monday morning 10th inst only re-opened or renewed the exasperation of the Chinese, which had been repressed by the prompt vigorous action of His Excellency, the Viceroy Lieng

If the promptness & vigor manifested by the retiring Viceroy in suppressing the Honan riot in August, had been applied to the riot of Monday 10th September, less property would have been destroyed; but the loss of property is not to be compared with the feeling of insecurity that results from the removal of placards, inciting the mob to destroy the lives of foreigners as they destroyed their property. There was no time during the riot of Monday 10th September when one hundred well-disciplined and properly armed soldiers could not have dispersed the mob. As it was, the mob had uninterrupted sway for four hours in pillage & destruction; and now, by placards, threaten the destruction of foreigners' lives, as well as their property. In all thirteen buildings were burned, & three or four others looted. Total loss & damage probably \$250,000.00.

And, in the meantime, today, the plundered property of the foreigners is offered for sale in one of the streets of Canton; and one of the owners of that stolen property, purchased ~~the~~ some of his own household effects back from the robbers, in what is known as the "Thieves Market Place", through the assistance of a Chinese employee.

It is gratifying to state that only one American citizen suffered much loss of property by the riot of Monday 10th instant, viz Mr E. N. Holwell, to the extent of from ten to twenty thousand dollars.

It is possible that Messrs Russell & Co (an American firm) may have a claim for loss of wharf and other property.

The Viceroys' military forces; and ^{foreign} Citizens' or residents' patrol; and the arrival of British, Chinese & other gun-boats have temporarily quieted matters.

S²

During the reign of the mob, the women and children, and many of the male foreigners, took refuge on the two ^{other} steamers in port, but many of the foreign residents passed that day, and succeeding nights and days in guarding against a threatened renewal of Chinese hostilities. It is proper to say, that the dispatches of the Consular Officers, representing several governments, sent to the Viceroy Monday 10th & Tuesday 11th but elicited no formal or written replies or acknowledgements until this afternoon, 13th inst.

The U.S. flag was the last lowered on Monday 10th inst.; and was the first restored to mast head.

This Consulate has been Head Quarters for the Consular Corps; and has been the shelter for any American citizens, male and female, needing food & lodging pending interruptions to regular business.

It has been my pleasure to administer "aid & comfort" to several of my countrymen & countrywomen in a pressing emergency.

9

Hoping we may be exempt
from a repetition of such
scrums; & that I may be
pardoned for sending this by
Tomorrow's Steamer direct, after
having sent similar advice to
the U.S. Minister through M. General
General.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedt Servt

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul



S. C. Blair

No. 37

Dec 11/83

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

October 13-1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adlee,

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Quarterly Return and
Accounts.*

SYNOPSIS.

N^o 37

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

October 13th 1883

H^{on}. A. A. Adee

Third Asst. Sec^y of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to hand you
herewith Returns and Accounts, with
Vouchers, for the quarter ending Sept^r 20/83,
as per enclosures viz:

- 1st Digest of Invoice Book.
- 2nd Record of Notarial Fees.
- 3rd Summary of Consular business.
- 4th Account of Miscellaneous expenses,
with vouchers in duplicate.

I also enclose Digest of Invoice
Book for 2nd 1/4 yr 1883, to cover a
possible omission when I sent Returns
in July.

1235
174
Slut

As there is nothing to
report under forms Nos 120, 121,
and 137, they are omitted.

I am, Sir, Very Resp^{ly}
Yr Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour
M. Consul

Enclosures 3
True. 3

Form 159.

Quarterly transcript of the Record of Notarial services at the Consulate Canton, during
the quarter ended the 30th day of September 1883.

No.	DATE	TO WHOM THE SERVICE WAS RENDERED.	NATURE OF THE SERVICE.	AMOUNT OF FEE OR COMPENSATION.	REMARKS.
				\$	Cts.
July 2		Leong Bing Yon	Verifying Power of attorney.	2	-
366	6	Thomas Rowe & Smith	Invoices Duplicate and copy.	2	-
367	"	Preston & Co.	" " Quadruplicate and "	2	-
368	"	H. Dent & Co.	" " Duplicate "	2	-
369	"	" " "	" " " "	2	-
370	"	Russell & Co.	" " " "	2	-
372	"	Thomas Rowe & Smith	" " " "	2	-
373	"	"	" " " "	2	-
374	"	"	" " " "	2	-
375	"	"	" " " "	2	-
376	"	Simson & Co.	" " " "	2	-
379	"	Deacon & Co.	" " " "	2	-
380	"	"	" " " "	2	-
381	"	Russell & Co.	" " " "	2	-
382	"	"	" " " "	2	-
383	"	H. Dent & Co.	" " " "	2	-
385	10	Preston & Co.	" " Quadruplicate "	2	-
387	14	H. Dent & Co.	" " " "	2	-
388	18	Russell & Co.	" " " "	2	-
397	"	Birley & Co.	" 4 copies for South American in London.	4	50
398	21	Carlson & Co.	" Invoices Duplicate and copy.	2	-
399	"	H. Dent & Co.	" " Quadruplicate copy.	2	-
400	"	"	" " " "	2	-
401	"	"	" " " "	2	-
402	"	"	" " " "	2	-
403	"	Preston & Co.	" " " "	2	-
404	"	"	" " " "	2	-
405	"	"	" " " "	2	-
406	"	Russell & Co.	" " " "	2	-
408	"	Deacon & Co.	" " " "	2	-
409	"	Russell & Co.	" " " "	2	-
410	"	Thomas Rowe & Smith	" " " "	2	-
411	23	"	" " " "	2	-
				8	68 50

I certify that the foregoing Record of Notarial services is a full and correct transcript of the Record of this Consulate, and that the same contains a true and accurate statement of all the Fees received at this Consulate for such services during the period named.

U. S. CONSUL.

Form 159.

(continued)

Quarterly transcript of the Record of Notarial services at the Consulate Canton, during the quarter ended the 30th day of September 1885.

No.	DATE.	TO WHOM THE SERVICE WAS RENDERED.	NATURE OF THE SERVICE.	AMOUNT OF FEE OR COMPENSATION.	REMARKS.
				\$ Cts.	
416	Sept 3	Russell & Co:	certifying Invoices <i>Brought forward</i>	28 00	
417	" 4	"	" " " " " "	2 -	
418	" 4	"	" " " " " "	2 -	
419	" 4	H. Dent & Co:	" " " " " "	2 -	
420	" 4	"	" " " " " "	2 -	
421	" 4	Russell & Co:	" " " " " "	2 -	
422	" 6	Carlomitz & Co:	" " " " " "	2 -	
423	" 4	Russell & Co:	" " " " " "	2 -	
424	" "	"	" " " " " "	2 -	
426	" "	H. Dent & Co:	" " " " " "	2 -	
427	" 4	Thomas R. & Smith	" " " " " "	2 -	
428	" "	"	" " " " " "	2 -	
429	" "	"	" " " " " "	2 -	
431	" 8	H. Dent & Co:	" " " " " "	2 -	
-	" 9	Russell & Co:	copies for South America via London.	2 00	
432	" "	"	Invoices Quad: ^{1st} and copy	2 -	
-	" 14	Carlomitz & Co:	copies of specifications	4 -	
440	" 16	H. Dent & Co:	Invoices, Quaduplicate & copy	2 -	
442	" 17	Thomas R. & Smith	" " " " " "	2 -	
443	" "	"	Quinta: " " "	2 -	
444	" "	"	" " " " " "	2 -	
445	" "	"	" " " " " "	2 -	
447	" "	Russell & Co:	Quad: " " "	2 -	
448	" 4	H. Dent & Co -	" " " " " "	2 -	
449	" "	for distinct & quad	" " " " " "	2 -	
451	" "	Deacon & Co:	" " " " " "	2 -	
452	" "	Russell & Co:	" " " " " "	2 -	
455	" "	"	" " " " " "	2 -	
457	" 17	Carlomitz & Co	" " " " " "	2 -	
458	" 18	"	" " " " " "	2 -	
460	" "	Thomas R. & Smith	" " " " " "	2 -	
461	" "	"	" " " " " "	2 -	
462	" "	"	" " " " " "	2 -	
				<i>Carries forward</i>	\$ 137. 00

I certify that the foregoing Record of Notarial services is a full and correct transcript of the Record of this Consulate, and that the same contains a true and accurate statement of all the Fees received at this Consulate for such services during the period named.

U. S. CONSUL.

Form 159.

(Continued)

Quarterly transcript of the Record of Notarial services at the Consulate Canton, during
the quarter ended the 30th day of September 1883.

No.	DATE	TO WHOM THE SERVICE WAS RENDERED.	NATURE OF THE SERVICE.	AMOUNT OF FEE OR COMPENSATION.		REMARKS.
				\$	Cts.	
402	Sept 19	Prutan & Co.				
404	" 18	H. Dent & Co.	certifying Invoice			Brought forward \$ 137.00
405	" 27	Russell & Co.	" " " "	2	-	
405	" 28	"	" " " "	2	-	
407	" 4	H. Dent & Co.	" " " "	2	-	
408	" 4	Russell & Co.	" " " "	2	-	
409	" 29	H. Dent & Co.	" " " "	2	-	
410	" 4	"	" " " "	2	-	
411	" 30	Deacon & Co.	" " " "	2	-	
413	" "	Russell & Co.	" " " "	2	-	
414	" "	"	" " " "	2	-	
415	" "	"	" " " "	2	-	
416	" "	Russell & Co.	" " " "	2	-	
417	" "	Thomas R. Smith	" " " "	2	-	
418	" "	"	" " " "	2	-	
420	" "	Russell & Co.	" " " "	2	-	
422	Sept. 5	Carlomitz & Co.	4 copies for South America			\$ 4.00
-	" 7	Russell & Co.	3 " " " "	2	-	\$ 2.00
500	" 10	H. Dent & Co.	Invoice Quintin	2	-	
502	" "	Russell & Co.	" " " "	2	-	
503	" 12	Deacon & Co.	" " " "	2	-	
506	" "	Thomas R. Smith	" " " "	2	-	
508	" 13	"	" " " "	2	-	
509	" "	"	" " " "	2	-	
517	" 22	Russell & Co.	Quat. and	2	-	
518	" "	Prutan & Co.	" " " "	2	-	
520	" 24	Carlomitz & Co.	Quintin	2	-	
521	" "	H. Dent & Co.	Quat. and	2	-	
522	" "	"	Quintin	2	-	
523	" "	"	" " " "	2	-	
524	" "	Lincoln & Davis	" " " "	2	-	
525	" "	Carlomitz & Co.	" " " "	2	-	
527	" "	Prutan & Co.	" " " "			
				Brought forward		\$ 204.00
				carried over		

I certify that the foregoing Record of Notarial services is a full and correct transcript of the Record of this Consulate, and that the same contains a true and accurate statement of all the Fees received at this Consulate for such services during the period named.

U. S. CONSUL.

Form 159.

(continued) (4)

Quarterly transcript of the Record of Notarial services at the Consulate Canton, during the quarter ended the 30th day of September 1883.

DATE	TO WHOM THE SERVICE WAS RENDERED	NATURE OF THE SERVICE	AMOUNT OF FEE OR COMPENSATION.	REMARKS
			\$ U.S.	
528 Sept: 24	Proctor & Co.	Certifying Invoices and copy	2 -	
529 "	"	"	2 -	
530 "	25 Thomas Lane Smith	"	2 -	
531 "	"	"	2 -	
532 "	"	"	2 -	
533 "	"	"	2 -	
534 "	"	"	2 -	
535 "	"	"	2 -	
536 "	"	"	2 -	
537 "	"	"	2 -	
538 "	"	"	2 -	
539 "	"	"	2 -	
540 "	26 Russell & Co.	"	2 -	
541 "	"	"	2 -	
542 "	"	"	2 -	
543 "	"	"	2 -	
544 "	"	"	2 -	
- "	"	"	-	
- "	"	"	-	
3 copies for South America via London			2.50	
			\$ 238.50	Total

I certify that the foregoing Record of Notarial services is a full and correct transcript of the Record of this Consulate, and that the same contains a true and accurate statement of all the Fees received at this Consulate for such services during the period named.

Charles Lyman
U. S. CONSUL.

Form No. 103.

Summary of business at the United States Consulate at Canton during
the Quarter ended *30th September 1883.*

Movement of Vessels.

Vessels in Port from last Quarter :

Vessels arriving during present Quarter : *None* except "*Palos*" & "*Imiate*" of U.S. Navy

Vessels departing :

Vessels remaining in Port :

Tonnage arriving :

Tonnage departing :

Fees received, \$ *466.⁰⁰*

Expenses, including Salary, \$ *1374.⁴¹*

Movement of Seamen.

Seamen in Port from last Quarter :

Seamen arriving :

Seamen shipped :

Seamen died :

Seamen discharged :

Seamen deserted :

Seamen departed :

Seamen in Port :

Synopsis of Seamen's Account.

Balance from previous Quarter :

Received for Extra Wages :

Expended for Seamen :

Balance :

\$ Dr. \$ Cr.

Consulate of the United States,
at Canton, *30th September 1883.*

Charles Seymour
W. B. Brown



St. Clair

No. 38

Dec 1/83

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

October 13 1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

*Hon. A. A. Ades,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Transmitting Returns
and Accounts of
Shanghai Consular Agency.*

SYNOPSIS.

N^o 38

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

October 18th 1883

W. A. A. Addee

Third Asst. Sec. of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit
returns and accounts of British
Consular Agency for the Quarter
ending Sept. 30th 1883, as rendered by
Mr. W. T. Jones, namely: -

- 1st Report of Marine Book.
- 2nd Return of deceased American citizens.
- 3rd Summary of Consular business.
- 4th Record of Treasury Fees.
- 5th General Account for 3rd Q^{tr} of 1883.

Yours, Sir, Very Respectfully,
First Assistant Secretary.

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul.

For
enclosures 3

1711
not
1711

No. 39

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

October 20th 1883

Mr. A. A. Addee

Third Asst. Sec. of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to express my
thankful acknowledgments of the
Department's dispatch No. 21, granting
me leave of absence for sixty days;
of which I shall not avail myself,
for the reason that the disturbances
of August and September, followed
by uncertainties as to the condition of
affairs in Canton, pending strenuous
efforts on the part of the Chinese authorities
to prevent the turbulent elements

from perpetrating further atrocities
against foreigners, ^{made} it is desirable that the Consul
should be at his post of duty, where I remain.

Furthermore, the climate has
been more genial to me than I expected;
and I feel no special need of going away to
escape from heat of the prolonged summer.

Still, as a few weeks of respite
generally enables foreign residents to recover
from malarial fever and physical debility;
I may be glad to have the privilege of escaping
from the midsummer heat of next year;
and with that in view, I will be gratified
by permission, if necessary, to enjoy the leave
of absence without waiting for a reply to a
later application.

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Seymour
U. S. Consul



No. 40

11
Jan 15 84

inclusion
Mr. Scanlan

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

November 7-1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adee,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

The Credit system in business.

SYNOPSIS.

*Chinese laws and customs
in regard to credits.*

(Copied for Bu. Statistics. March 1884.)

No. 40.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

November 7th 1883

Wm. A. Aldree

Third Asst. Sec^y of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to state,
in reply, to a circular received
from the State Department, requiring
information in regard to the credit system
in business, that it seems to be the
Custom in Canton; and, so far as I can
learn, throughout Southern China, to
extend liberal credits in business
transactions; and with comparatively
little inconvenience or disappointment
in settlements, which are generally
made semi-annually.

Before the beginning of the new year, which is in the second week of February, the seals are almost universally locked up, and remain so during that month. It is customary to affix the vermilion seals to all receipts for money payments; according to the commercial customs of the Nations with whom the Chinese had commerce one hundred centuries ago, including not only the Romans and Persians, but Babylonians.

The closing of the seals implies that all business matters have been adjusted; and such is the fact with rare exceptions.

It is almost universally assumed in this part of China that the business or pecuniary obligations of all solvent individuals, firms, & companies, will be honorably met and fully discharged before the end of the Chinese year.

52

All delinquents then pass into the dishonored class; and are soon put under process of coercive termination of a business career, and are subject to punishment by bamboo blows.

By reference to the Chinese penal code, it appears that the act of obtaining property under false pretenses is treated as theft, both as to the nature of the crime, and the severity of punishment.

No dutiful son feels absolved from discharging his father's debts.

Adversity occasioned by unavoidable circumstances is regarded with indulgence.

Failure, caused by profligacy, or hazardous ventures, or recklessness, admits of no countenance.

Besides the annual settlements, which are full and clean, it is customary among Commercial men to demonstrate their solvency, and promote their mutual safety and comfort, by approximately clearing all balances to their mutual satisfaction, in the middle of the Chinese year, or about the first of August.

Thus, by semi-annual settlements, all

4

Chinese business concerns, with any pretensions to solvency and solidity, attend, regularly and sacredly, to these customs, which serve to inspire all concerned with mutual confidence; and this observance of good faith gives every man a feeling of security, which results in solid credit and commercial safety.

A well known and verified case of strict regard for good credit among the Chinese merchants might be cited in the action of an extensive and opulent merchant named "Houqua"; who was, during the middle of the present century, a leader in the commerce of Canton; and left an estate variously estimated at from twenty five to fifty millions of dollars.

On the occasion of a Chinese firm failing, with large indebtedness to foreign merchants, under circumstances that were deemed dishonorable; "Houqua" called upon half a dozen wealthy Chinese merchants to join him in paying off the total indebtedness of the insolvent Chinese firm; and

5

headed the subscription with one million of dollars - remarking that "Chinese credit must remain untarnished."

This is the same "Hongqua", who ~~helped to~~ raised the portion of the six millions of "indemnity" or "ransom", which had to be paid by the Chinese authorities within forty eight hours to prevent the bombardment of Canton by the English; when "Hongqua" cheerfully contributed "One million and one hundred thousand Dollars - \$1,000,000. of which he gave in recognition of the fidelity of his son; \$200,000. of which he donated in token of the affection of his beloved wife; and \$800,000. as a thank-offering for the prosperity that had incessantly attended him in his commercial enterprises", as appears on public record.

I am Sir, Very Respectfully,
Your obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul.



*See "charge and
discharge report"
to ac Jan 23/84*

No. 41

Attest

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

November 8-1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Canton affairs.

SYNOPSIS.

*Circumstances attending the riots
of August and September 1883.*

No. 41

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

November 8th 1883

Mr. A. A. S. Lee

Third Asst. Sec. of State

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I had the honor, under date of Sept. 13th - ult, in dispatch numbered 36, to give you, briefly, the information that disturbances of a somewhat serious nature had occurred in Canton; and that the lives and property of foreigners in Southern China were jeopardized by the hostilities of Chinese mobs. As matters have quieted down sufficiently to justify a full statement of facts in connection with those occurrences, permit me to place on record the circumstances.

2

It is impossible to get a correct view of the causes that have led to the recent outbreaks of vengeance among Chinese against foreigners, without taking into due consideration the irritation among the natives of China, produced by the late military strife between Russian and Chinese forces in Northern China; and the preparations for war between France and China in Southern or Southwestern China.

With a consciousness that Chinese resources were equal to the Russian emergency; and, that with the adoption of modern improvements in war ships and military weapons, their superior numbers would enable them to cope with the French, if war is inevitable, there has been, and still exists, a powerful element inclined to war measures; and a more respectable element averse to war.

(c)

While such feelings were actively manifested among the Chinese masses; and while the Chinese authorities and officials were occupied with preparations for the worst, and with hopes for the best; there has been a strong under-current, which became more and more a power, composed of the turbulent, dissatisfied, and apatronic portion of the populace, who delight in turmoil, strife, confusion, and anarchy; and would strike down natives or foreigners, or rob, pillage, and destroy the property of all who are in apparent affluence or luxury, without discrimination, or indiscriminately.

Two extensive conflagrations occurred in Canton last Winter; and it is believed that incendiaries who desired opportunities to loot and steal caused some of those disastrous fires in strictly Chinese business quarters of the city.

During the year, in cities and in country towns, there have been numberless indications that the bad feelings, engendered by war threats and military preparations, of the Chinese were becoming intensified against all foreigners. Inflammatory and unfriendly placards were abundant.

as the most available and effective means of communication of ideas among the people, these placards are generally resorted to in efforts to stir the people up to perpetration of outrages.

The occasion for concentrating the prejudices of the natives against foreigners occurs whenever the latter commit any act of violence or injustice against natives; and in regard to the trouble in Canton, there has been no lack of provocation by the foreigners.

The carousal or debauch of three Europeans (employed as tide-waiters or detectives in the Chinese Imperial Customs) through the night between Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th of August, followed on the morning of Sunday 12th of August, by one of the three Europeans shooting and killing a Chinese boy, and wounding a Chinaman and a Chinawoman, needlessly & unjustifiably, by the use of fire arms, led to turbulence and disorder that could not be suppressed until the Viceroy's military forces dispersed the indignant rioters on Monday evening or night, 13th August. During the two days (Sunday and Monday)

no boat of any kind containing a foreigner was allowed to land on the South side of the

15

Quanton rim. The mob would not permit the body of the dead boy to be removed from the place where he was slain & killed.

As the provocation was greater than that which caused the riot of Sept. 10/83, and as the indignation persuaded a larger and better class of Chinese than were engaged in the September riot; the riot of August 12th & 13th was, in every respect, more formidable and dangerous than the subsequent riot, which destroyed much property; but the promptness with which the Viceroy, "Tseng", (Uncle of the Marquis "Tseng", Chinese Ambassador in Europe) responded to the suggestions of the Consular Corps, as set forth in a communication prepared by myself, and signed by six Consular Officers, as per Copy enclosed marked #1, prevented the execution of a fixed purpose on the part of the Chinese mob to exterminate foreigners, and destroy their property at that time.

The three Europeans (British, Russian, and Swedish Subjects) were placed in the British jail.

6/

For a month elapsed before the British Chief Justice for China and Japan, Sir Richard J. Keme, could come from his residence in Shanghai to Canton to try the accused Briton named Logan, who had been examined by the British Consul, and held for trial on the charge of murdering the Chinese boy.

In the meantime the Keme and Smid had been set at liberty, and departed - having lost their places in the Custom House.

As justice moved slower in foreign Courts than in Chinese Courts, the impression became prevalent among the natives that the three Europeans who caused the troubles of August 12th would not be punished; and the daily placards became more numerous and threatening.

The ill-advised and unjustifiable conduct of the Portuguese gang-way watchman on the British Steamer "Hankow", in killing or drowning a young Chinaman who tried to embark before the proper time, served as a match to ignite the inflammable elements, on morning of Sept. 10/83.

Immediately, and with wonderful celerity, the mob rallied for vengeance or revenge; and would have burned the steamer, if it had not suddenly cast off from the wharf, and steamed away, which it did in front of the Shameen Reservation, where the foreigners chiefly reside.

The wharf was soon burned; and as soon as it became known, that the Agent of the steamer lived on Shameen, the mob moved toward his residence; but, finding many valuable buildings, filled with portable effects of considerable cost, a systematic plan of pillage and destruction was adopted by the mob, without any serious interruption, until after four hours of looting and incendiarism, from 8½ A.M., to about 12.45 P.M.; at which time, or nearly one o'clock P.M., on Monday September 10th 1883, the Viceroy's military forces reached Shameen - the present Viceroy being "Chang", who had recently returned to his former Viceroyalty, in Canton, after relieving Li Hung Chang in one of the Northern Provinces for a year.

8

About a dozen dwellings were burned, after having been looted; and several other buildings were pillaged.

The flags of the Consulate were lowered when it became necessary to admonish people of foreign nations to seek shelter and safety on board of the steamers in port which received them freely and kindly until the mob were dispersed; ~~and~~ when those residents whose domiciles had been spared were ^{soon} filled with friends in distress.

With the exception of about twenty minutes, while depositing for safety the certified invoices of ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~goods~~ ^{goods} ~~going per next steamer~~ ^{going per next steamer}, the two most important books of record, from the U.S. Consulate, on board of the Steamer "Kingspo," between 12.30 and 1 P.M., I remained on Shamew; and witnessed the operations of the mob, until smoke and cinders, driven toward me by the wind then blowing from the East, made my position any longer untenable; and admonished me of the danger of further delay in rescuing so much from the Consular archives.

The British & German flags were lowered soon after ten o'clock A.M.

The only Consular flag in sight after 10.30 A.M. was the U.S. flag, which was lowered a few minutes before one o'clock P.M.; about the time the Viceroy's troops arrived, and when the mob were firing and looting buildings one block East of this Consulate.

At three o'clock P.M. the Consular Corps, composed of Consular Officers representing Great Britain, German Empire, France, Netherlands, Sweden & Norway, and Denmark, assembled at the U.S. Consulate; and prepared & sent to the Viceroy identical letters, separately signed, as per copy enclosed, & numbered #2.

At five o'clock P.M. the foreign residents, pursuant to call, assembled in the Canton Club House, to organize for defense.

As Senior Consul, I called the meeting to order; and nominated Alfred T. Duval, Esquire, President of the Shamoon Council, as Chairman.

An organization was effected, of sixty residents, in three sections of twenty each, to patrol the Shamoon, during that & succeeding night.

During that time, and from the 10th of September until the middle of October, much solicitude has been entertained by the Viceroy and other high Chinese officials, as to their ability to maintain authority over the turbulent elements in Canton and its immediate surroundings.

The placards exposed in public places throughout Canton congratulated the Chinese people upon their excellent conduct and great success in the destruction of so much of the property of foreigners, who must soon be utterly exterminated.

The walls of the Viceroy's Palace had placards on them admonishing him that if any indemnity is paid to the foreigners for property destroyed in the riot, he will be assassinated.

Some placards stated that as the Chinese officials were giving all of their attention and services to the protection of the foreigners, who must be killed, and exterminated forever from Canton,

the people had determined to take matters into their own hands, and would proceed to apply the needed remedy, by destroying the foreign devils and their property; and by killing those Chinese officials who were defending barbarian dogs.

So defiant and aggressive were the turbulent elements in Canton, that the Viceroy and other Chinese officials for awhile actually distrusted their ability to maintain rightful authority against the mobs.

At the same time riotous mobs began to make demonstrations at Foo-Chow, and other points in China; and it was currently reported that along the valley of the Yangtze, for hundreds of miles, the members of the "Fried", the "White Lily", and other secret societies of Chinese rebels, were ready to bid defiance to the authority of the present Dynasty.

These statements will enable you to understand that the

Chinese authorities were in as much jeopardy as foreigners; and that both were equally interested in every measure or movement that tended to strengthen the hands of those who control public affairs.

With that view of the situation, I found myself, in the line of apparent duty, and of sound policy, somewhat apart from those of my Consular colleagues who were disposed, and even determined, to rasp and annoy the Viceroy, and severely criticize his action in regard to foreigners.

While maintaining that the Chinese authorities must be held responsible for the safety of foreigners and their property; I accepted the friendly assurances of the Chinese officials, in connection with what seemed to me vigorous and judicious efforts to give effect to their declarations, as sincere purpose on their part to throw all possible security around foreigners; and manifested no distrust as to the ability

or desire of the Chinese authorities to faithfully protect all foreign interests.

I therefore abstained from any annoying or captious criticisms upon the Viceroy's plans or actions; and kept the U.S. Consulate booming with good cheer, pleasant intercourse, and appropriate hospitalities; in which foreigners of various nationalities, and many of the higher Chinese officials, from the Viceroy, Provincial Judge, & Chief Magistrate, down to the military officers in charge of the Provincial, City, and Shamoon forces, participated, with social relish. That was one point of policy or action, on which I was not very cordially sustained by the British, German and French Consuls. However, time has very emphatically demonstrated that my course was right.

Nothing contributed so much to discourage the turbulent elements in Canton as the arrivals of war-vessels, bearing the flags of foreign Powers; with the certainty that if the Viceroy's forces

failed to make successful resistance against Chinese mobs on Shamoon, the foreign marines, with machine-guns, would meet the emergency.

The presence of these "Men-of-War", while inspiring turbulent natives with dread and terror, took several of the hot-headed and bellicose foreigners off their base; by causing an attempt to usurp the functions of the Chinese authorities in protecting foreigners.

A military Company was organized on Shamoon, supplied with arms from the British arsenal ^{or depot} at Hong Kong. The Officers of the commanding the "Men-of-War" in Port had a meeting on board of the British war-vessel "Swift"; and sent to the Consular Corps a written programme of operations in the event of another outbreak occurring, which might require the services of the foreign ships & their crews. It was then and there decided ~~that~~ and recommended that the North Bridge between Shamoon island and the City should be immediately destroyed or completely barricaded, as a precautionary measure; as set forth in enclosed document numbered #3, with my qualified disapproval.

#3 & #4.

My reasons for resisting the adoption of the recommendation to destroy or barricade the North Bridge, were, that it would alone precipitate a formidable riot, by calling together at that point immense crowds of people, who might quickly become uncontrollable; and that as the Viceroys' forces, then and now occupying themselves for the protection of foreigners, were guarding both bridges (North and East), and used the North Bridge for ordinary communications with the city, such an act as the destruction or barricade of that bridge would be accepted by the Chinese authorities as usurpation of the Viceroys' functions, and would not only absolve him from the further responsibility of protecting the foreign community, but would also invalidate any claims for indemnity in event of losses.

106

In company with Captain Gliddon, of the U.S. "Palos", I called upon Captain Tisdall, in command of the British war-vessels and forces in port, ^{Sunday Sept 30th,} and urged upon him the necessity of abstaining from any act which might be regarded by the Chinese authorities as usurpation of their functions; or in any degree absolving them from the responsibility of protecting the foreign residents; or tend to impair the validity of claims for indemnity in the event of further losses by riots; but that, so far as practicable, the marine forces in port should keep in line with the action of the Consular Corps; and co-operate with the Viceroy's forces, as auxiliary means in resisting riotous invaders against the foreign community. I then placed in the hands of the British Commander the programme or recommendation of the Officers in command of the "Men-of-war" in port, representing British, French, Portuguese, and U.S. Governments; with the comments of the Consuls to whom the paper had been submitted for consideration. Several changes have since occurred in the war-vessels and Officers in this Port.

(17)

We have since had in port the British gun-boat "Lionet", the U.S. Steamship "Iuniate", the French Steamer "Lionet", and the German S.S. "Eltis".

The U.S. "Iuniate", with 225 men and 25 officers, and excellent equipments, presents stronger available means for defensive operations than all of the other "Men-of-War" combined in port twice over; and with the admirable discipline maintained by Capt. Harrington, who has with him the most creditable body of officers I have ever seen on one ship, the "Iuniate" is justly regarded with respect by all concerned.

It is not necessary now to present any argument in vindication of the course I adopted in regard to the use of the marine forces on the wharves; for time has also verified the soundness of my position on that point; which was duly appreciated by the British and American officers in command of war-vessels in port; and is now generally acknowledged as judicious and correct, notwithstanding the temporary dislodgment of reason in many persons in the presence of threatened renewal of Chinese assaults against foreigners.

188
 Without attempting to perform any brilliant manoeuvres in a crisis, which demanded prudence and firmness, it has been my endeavor to maintain a conservative and conciliatory course, and prevent any erroneous action, which might diminish the responsibility of the Chinese authorities, or weaken the validity of foreigners' claims for indemnity for losses sustained from riotous natives.

The importance of securing those two ends cannot be questioned; and the results have justified the means employed for their attainment.

It will now be in order to refer to the disposal of Europeans accused of causing the deaths of Chinese, on the mornings of August 12th & Sept. 18th, which led to the two riots of those dates.

The Russian and Swede were released by their consular officers, as having done nothing worthy of punishment; although they had, while drunk and disorderly on the streets, insulted and slapped and pushed Chinese of both sexes about in a rough, rude, coarse and offensive manner; which aroused the Chinese to unite in driving away these two European assailants, until the Briton (Logan) came to the rescue of his two friends, and shot three Chinese—one killed.

(19)

In process of time, (Sept 20th to Sept 28th) Logan was tried at the British Consulate in Canton by Chief Justice Rennie, and a British Jury of remarkable intelligence and excellent character.

The prosecution was feebly and miserably conducted by the Crown Advocate Wilkinson (from Shanghai), who is said to be a well-read and thoroughly-educated lawyer; but who has no ability to present a case to a jury. His action in any school house in America on "declamation day" would entitle him to stern punishment. The Chinese Government had employed two very able legal gentlemen from Hong Kong to assist, or look after Chinese interests; but they were not permitted by the incompetent Crown Advocate, to plead in court against Logan; who, in defiance of a vigorous prosecution, was declared by the jury guilty of manslaughter, and sentenced to seven years of imprisonment with hard labor. Logan is now in the prison at Hong Kong; and his two companions in the row were not even detained as witnesses. Chinese witnesses are strange actors in court; and it requires the utmost tact to get from them any consistent narration. I attribute this to the severe penalties for false accusation; which is punishable by bamboo blows with severity.

180

To say this slowly attained result was not expected by, or satisfactory to, the Chinese officials or people, would fully express their disappointment and indignation; for it was contrary to their ideas of justice and punishment; and brought a new strain upon those in authority, who had appeased the clamor of the populace by assurances that law and justice would reign.

Attention was next turned toward the Portuguese employed on the British steamer "Hankow", accused of causing the death of a Chinaman on the morning of Sept. 10th, which event was the immediate cause of the riot of that day.

If the British Consul had promptly sent a constable on board of that steamer, and arrested the accused Portuguese, and lodged him in the Consul's jail, and given notice of fair examination or trial, the riot might, and, doubtless, would have been measurably averted; and probably stopped with the burning of the wharf.

But no persuasion from the Captain

2

of the British Steamer *Hankow*, and no advice from his Consular Colleagues, could persuade the British Consul to take the accused Portuguese named "Dias" into custody.

At the meetings of the Consular Corps in the U.S. Consulate on Monday 10th Sept and succeeding day, I took the position that as no treaty exists between Portugal and China; and as "Dias" was on the "Articles" of a British Steamer; the British Consul should take charge of "Dias", and permit the "*Hankow*" to proceed on her trip to Hong Kong, ~~from~~ which port and Canton that steamer constantly ran.

The French Consul had, during the past Summer, while sojourning at the Portuguese port of Macao, been verbally requested by a Portuguese Official (I think the Governor) to look after Portuguese interests at Canton; and in compliance with that desire, the French Consul requested the British Consul to transfer "Dias" from the British Steamer "*Hankow*" on ~~Wednesday~~ ~~evening~~, 12th September, to the Portuguese war vessel "*Tamaga*" then in port.

82

By what process of reasoning the British Consul, after repudiating control and jurisdiction over a man who was on the "Whale," of a British Ship, on which some alleged crime had been committed, while in Chinese waters, took the accused "Dias," and placed him on board of a war-vessel under the flag of a Nation having no treaty relations with China, it is difficult to comprehend; but that act was thus performed; and after five weeks of delay, pending controversy as to jurisdiction, the Portuguese "Dias," accused of murder, was conveyed from Canton to Macao, agreeably with mandates from the Imperial Government of Portugal. The Commander of the "Famega", on the evening of Thursday Oct 18th, through the French Consul, notified the Viceroy of the commands of the Portuguese Government, and intention of compliance with such orders; and between five and six o'clock on the following morning, steamed out of the Port of Canton, with Dias on board, to Macao; while the Viceroy was preparing a formal remonstrance.

"Dias" is imprisoned at Macao; and no definite plan for his trial has been announced. The entire affair is bad.

Security for the lives and property of foreigners in China cannot be maintained, or reasonably expected, on any such basis of action, as has been adopted by Europeans in the cases herein described; and I respectfully suggest, that, as this subject involves interests of sufficient importance to justify the Government of the United States in efforts to place foreigners upon a more secure footing in China; these facts should be brought squarely before the Governments of European and other countries, to prevent further resort to the tribunals of exasperated and indignant native mobs, for the correction of evils growing out of the lawlessness and violence of foreigners in China.

These facts have, substantially as herein stated, been communicated to the U.S. Legation, at Peking; and to the U.S. Consul General, at Shanghai; and admit of no other version in the spirit of accuracy or truthfulness.

This question, involving the interests of all Nationalities, is worthy of attention.

241

The fourth item that should be mentioned in this report upon affairs connected with the riots in Canton is the adjustment and settlement of claims of foreigners for indemnity for losses; and in regard to this feature of the case, it has also been my duty to stand alone in the consular corps in favor of a just and honest policy, which is, apparently, to be adopted.

I have been unable to discover, on the part of the Chinese authorities, any disposition to evade a fair adjustment of losses of foreigners in the Canton riots, and indemnity for righteous claims; while, on the other hand, there has been a combined effort to give shape to public opinion, and to impress the Chinese officials into the belief, that the losses sustained were from four to six times their actual amount.

Similar exaggerations occurred in a previous settlement of losses, largely in excess of their correct amounts; and while adhering firmly to what I am sure is the right course in this matter, it has been my lot to incur the displeasure of those who desired to get inordinate claims allowed.

(25)

The Hong Kong newspapers, for several days, kept their readers and the public informed of the fact that the U.S. Consul at Canton had estimated the riot losses at about a quarter of a million of dollars, while the other Consuls estimated them at from one million to a million and a half of dollars; and that the U.S. Consul and Viceroy were altogether too friendly; and that the reception of the Chinese officials at the U.S. Consulate in Canton were of a very social character, while the other Consuls received them coldly - to all of which, so far as relates to myself personally, I plead "guilty", and "invoke the mercy of the Court".

Moreover, the British Consul last week sent around to the foreigners interested, formal notice that positive orders had been received from the British Legation at Peking that no extortionate or fictitious claims should be presented; and the German Consul has also conceded to an Advocate in the employ of the Chinese Government that the total losses will not exceed three hundred thousand dollars Mexican = about \$370,000. Gold. I have only one American claim to present - viz: Messrs Russell & Co. for \$10,600.00.

26

Of this, I am now convinced that the estimate given by me on Tuesday 11th September to the Viceroy's Deputation, at about a quarter of a million of dollars, covered all just claims for losses; and it is a source of gratification to see that in this matter my course is fully vindicated, and its correctness established and recognized. You will please understand those approximate estimates by the Consuls were solicited by the Viceroy, for a correct presentation of the financial feature of the case to the Imperial Government at Peking.

In this connection it is proper to add that the Provincial Judge, "Kung"; and the Toatai, "Pang"; made a formal call at the U.S. Consulate on Saturday, 3rd Inst, and remained for an hour or more in consultation as to adjustment of losses; and conveyed to me the desire of the Viceroy that he should be permitted to send my name to the Imperial Government in Peking, as one of the two arbitrators, or Commissioners, to ascertain and determine the amount of indemnity;

27

if the Foreign Legations would consent to leave the matter in the hands of two arbitrators, one of whom they would be asked to designate.

Whether that ~~plan~~ of adjustment will be adopted or not, I am unable to say.

My reply was - that while it is my desire to avoid coming into conflict with Claimants and Consuls, whose views, as to losses, had been widely different from mine; I would not shrink from duty or responsibility in a matter involving important interests; if that plan meets with the approval of the Imperial Government, and Foreign Legations.

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour,
U.S. Consul.

Three Enclosures }
marked #1. #2. #3 }
also
One Enclosure #4. }
Map inside #3.

(Copy) No. 17

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

August 13th 1883.

To His Excellency,
"Seng"

Viceroy of the Two Guangs
Canton.

Sir:

Your Excellency's attention is respectfully called to the propriety and necessity of some effective means being employed to preserve order and allay excitement on the Honam side of the Canton river; on account of a deplorable disturbance which occurred in that portion of this City at an early hour on the morning of Sunday 12th instant; between some Chinese residents and three Europeans; resulting, unfortunately, in the death of a Chinese boy, and the wounding of a Chinaman and a Chinawoman, from the use of fire-arms in resisting a mob.

The three Europeans, one of whom is a native of Great Britain, another a native of Russia, and the third a native of Norway or Sweden, have been arrested; and are now

confined in the jail of the British Consulate, to await examinations according to Treaty stipulations and requirements. In the meantime, the excitement and feelings of the populace in the vicinity referred to, have assumed such a threatening character as to demand vigorous and prompt measures at the hands of the Chinese authorities to prevent further atrocities.

Wherefore, Your Excellency is respectfully informed of the facts; and requested to cause such measures to be immediately adopted, as will prevent any further disturbances. Hoping that Your Excellency will promptly give effect to a compliance with this request, in which we unitedly concur, We have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

(Signed) Charles Seymour, W. Counsel.

" P. Ristelhueber, Consul de France.

" Dr. F. von Mollendorff per Baron Ketteler, Consul for Germany.

" F. B. Cunningham, Vice Consul for Sweden & Norway.

" Charles van Bore, Consul for the Netherlands.

" Rev. R. Wood, Acting Consul for Denmark.

The British Consul sends a dispatch of similar purport

(Copy) No. 2

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

September 10th 1883.

To His Excellency,
"Chang"
Viceroy of the Two Luangs,
Canton.

Sir: In drawing Your Excellency's attention to the lamentable occurrences which have this day resulted in such a destruction of the property of the citizens of various Western Nations in Shamoen, I feel it to be my duty to represent that this destruction is due to the total want of sufficient protection to the foreign settlement; and to the tardy action of the Chinese authorities in sending a military force for our defense.

I must most urgently inform upon Your Excellency the necessity of adopting stringent measures to repress incendiaries and robbers.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Very Respectfully, Your Obedient Servant

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul

of the Consular
letter
above.

(Copy)

42

~~United States Consulate, Canton, China.~~

H.B.M. S. "Swift"

at Canton 29th Sept 1883.

The Respective Consuls,
Canton.

At a meeting held on board
H.B.M. S. "Swift" this day, of the Commanders of
the "Men-of-War" in port, it has been decided
that in case of an outbreak in the Settlement
the following disposition of the forces at our command
will be made.

1st We consider it imperative that the North
Bridge be either efficiently blocked up,
or so far destroyed, as to prevent access
to the Island - this should be at once
undertaken by the proper authorities.

2nd The Crews of the "Swift" and "Esper" (British) will defend the whole of the Bound
from the North Bridge, Armed by and including
the East Bridge, to a point opposite the North Bridge.

The crews of the "Famega" (Portuguese) and the
"Lutin" (French) will defend the Bound from
the North Bridge to the Westward as far as,
and including the Boat Shed (at the west end of the Island)

The crew of the "Palas" (U.S.) will patrol the
Southern front of the Bound, from the Boat Shed

a Boat-House to the Eastward as far as the British Consulate steps (nearly opposite the North Bridge).

3rd We propose the Municipal Council be invited to indicate some central place where the armed forces of the Community could rendezvous.

We have the honor to be,

Gentlemen,

Yours Obedient Servants.

(Signed-) J. A. Fiddall, Commander R.M.S. "Swift"

" Francis E. Cabello, " S.S. "Famega"

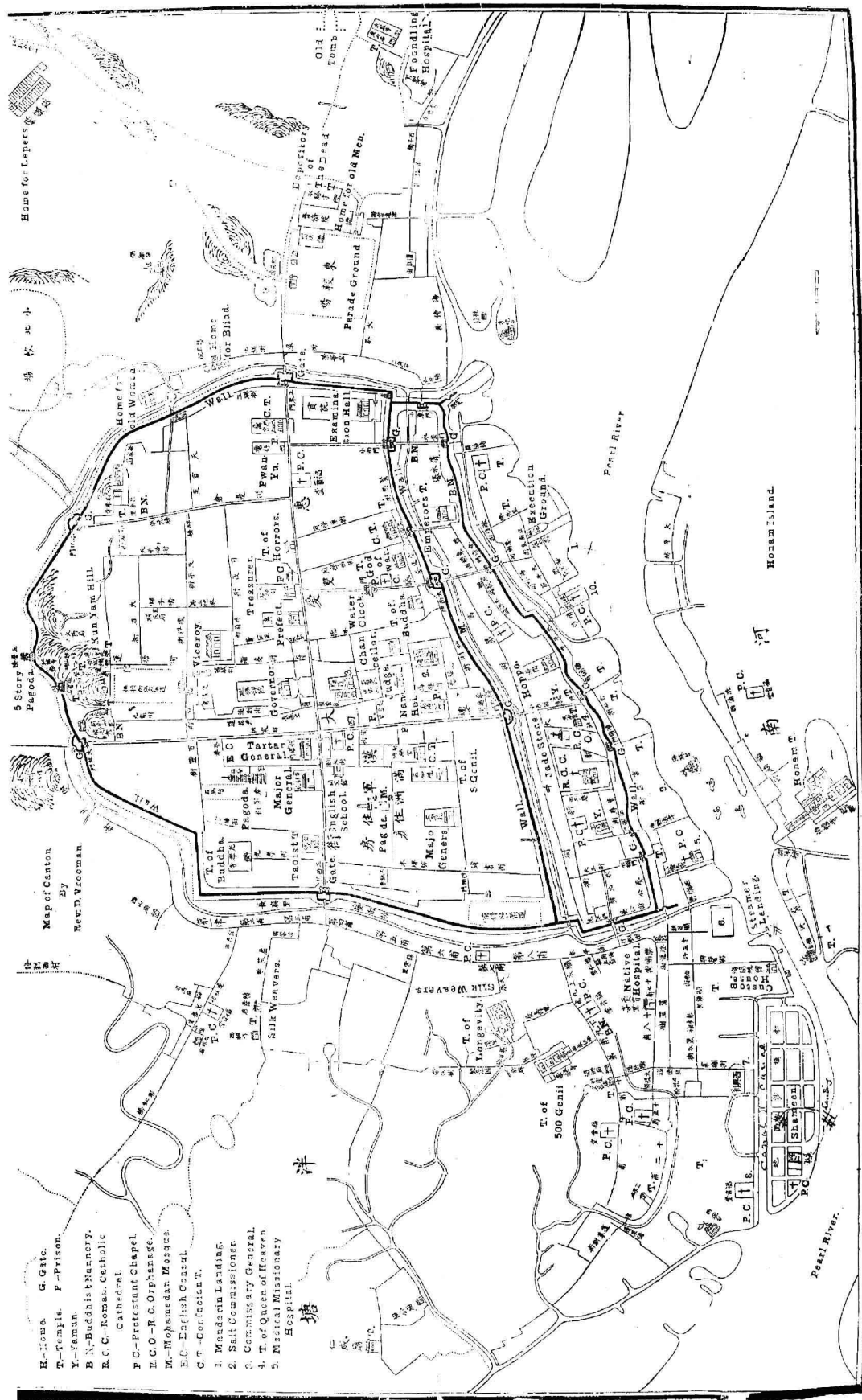
" L. DeBor, Commander S.S. "Lutin"

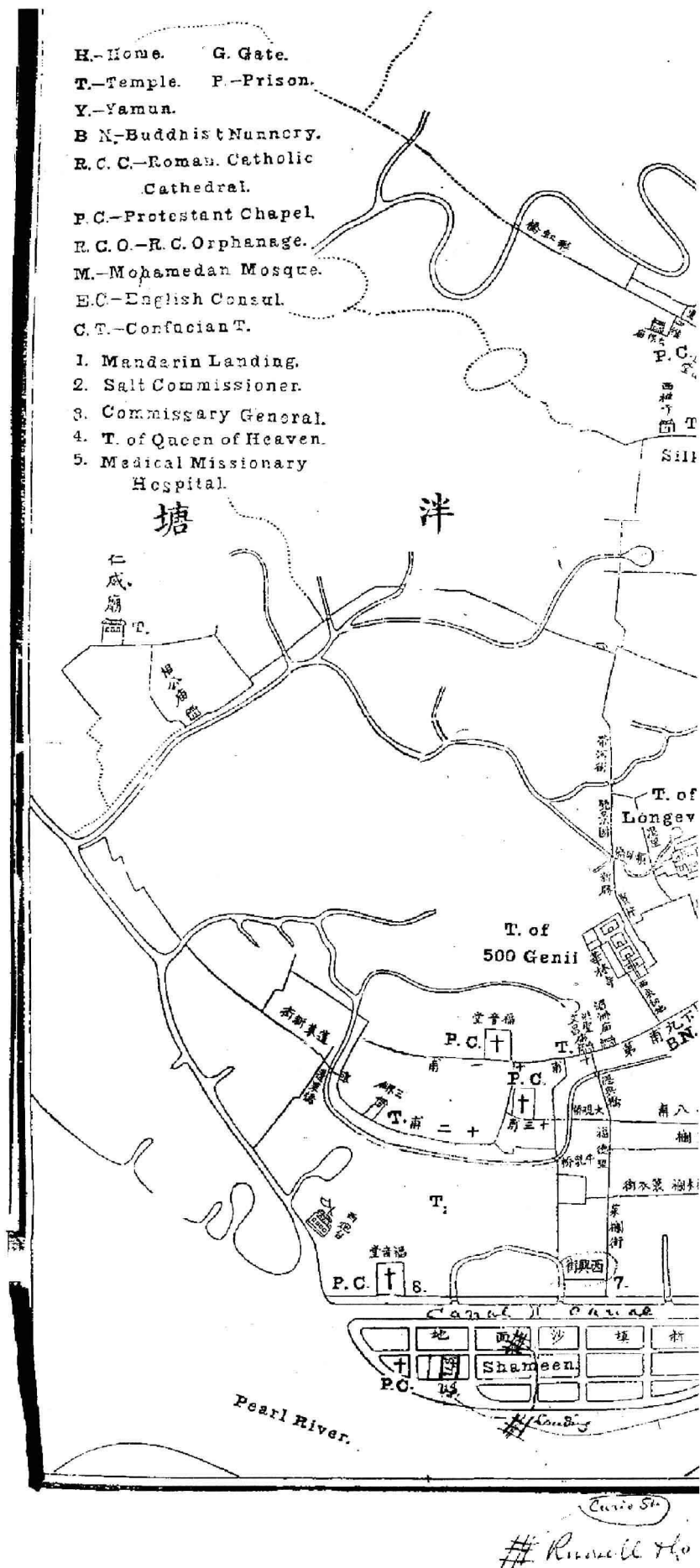
" Geo. B. Glidden, " M.S. "Palos"

" Edmund R. Gamble " M.S. "Espoir"

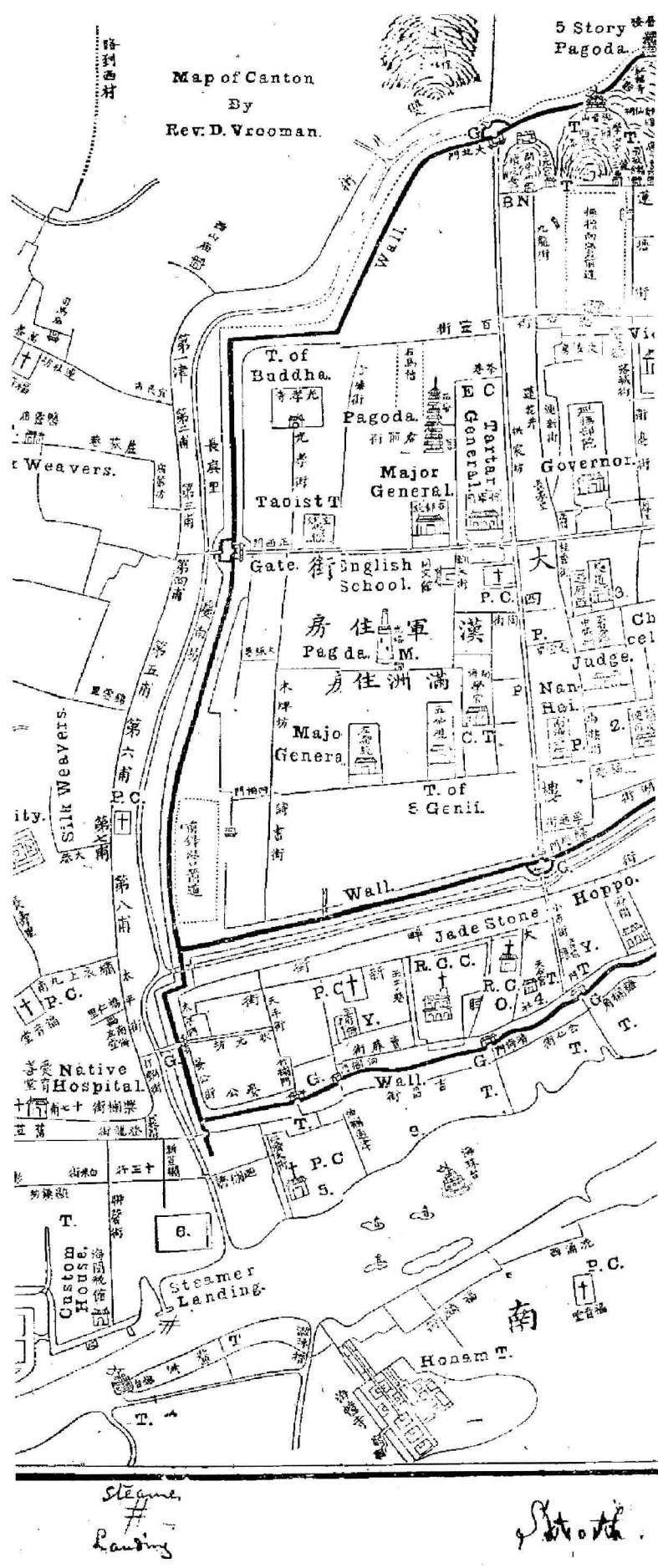
Seen by Charles Symonds, M. Consul,
and disapproved unless outbreak occurs;
in which event it seems right under certain regulations
in conformity with action of Councils.

11. With the object of preventing the
Municipal Council from being
able to act without the
consent of the Councils.

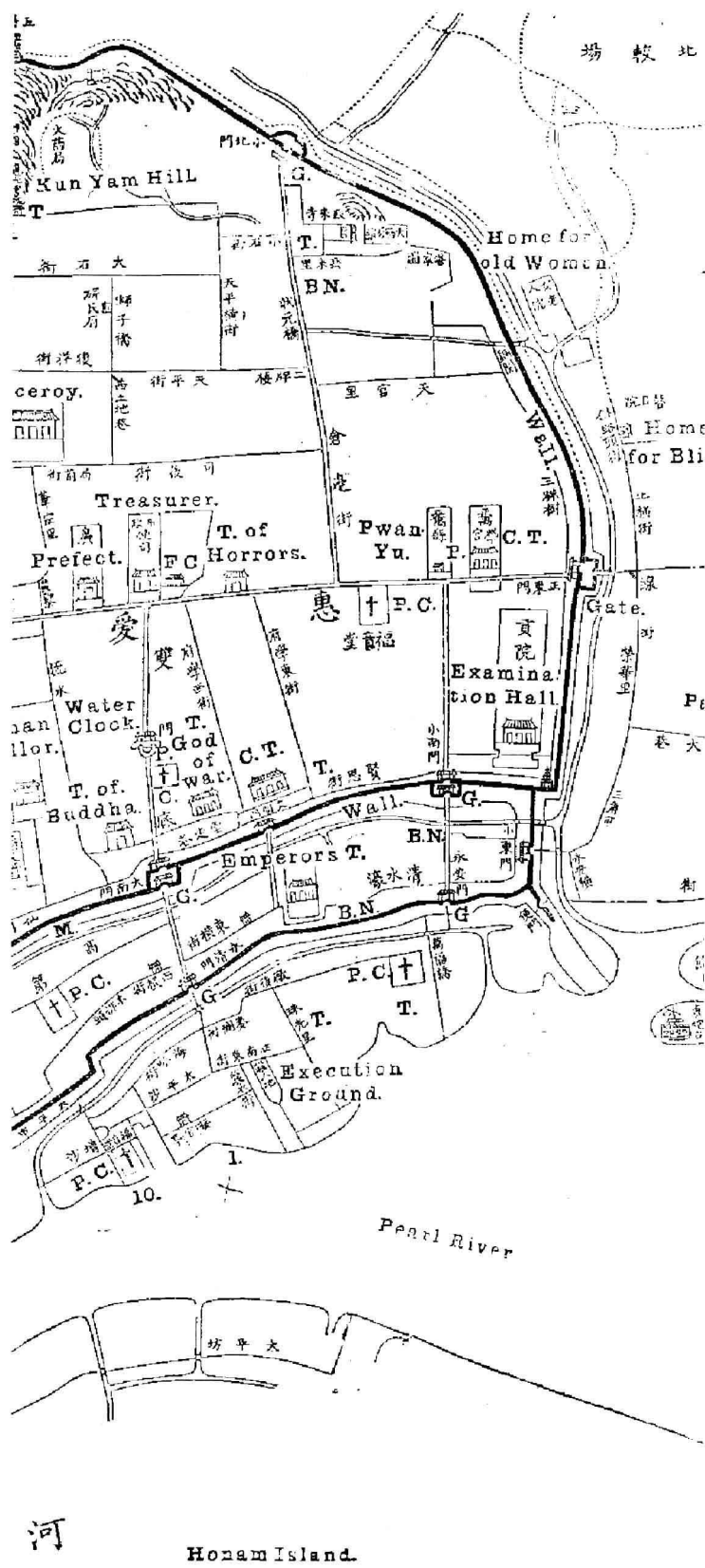




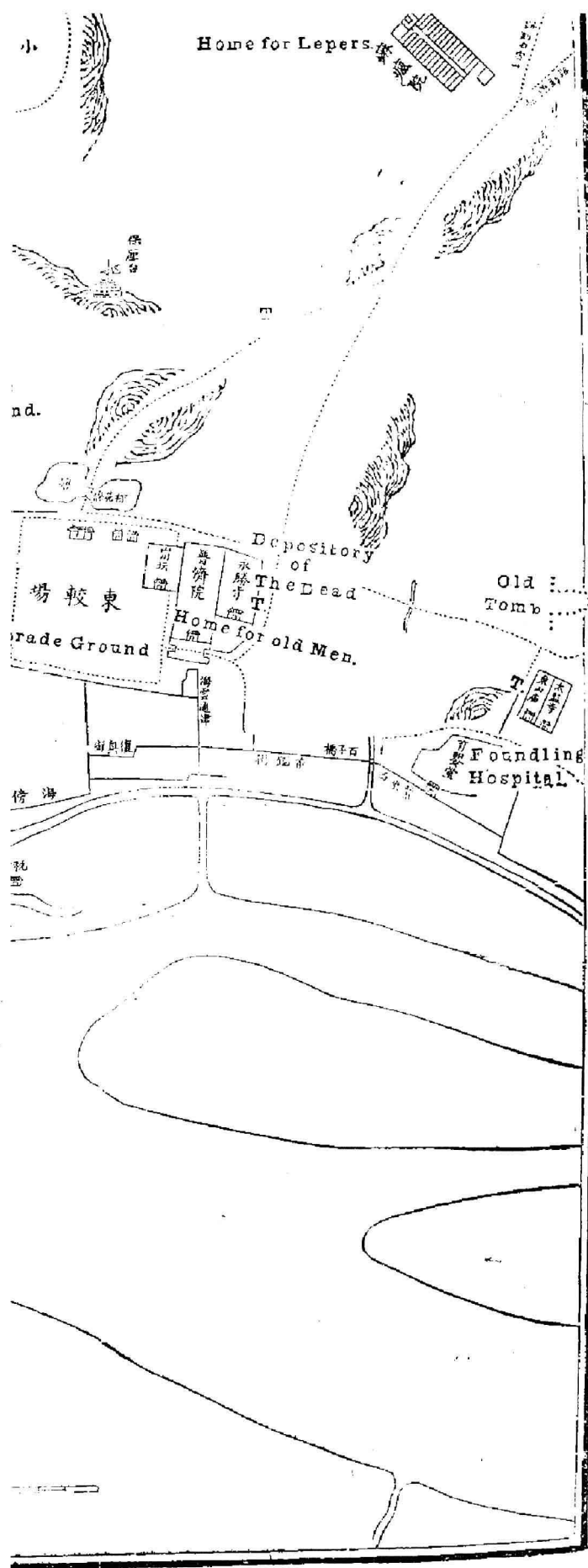
局部图(1)



局部图(2)



局部图(3)



局部图(4)

Copy of No. 42

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 21st 1884

W. A. A. A. A. A.

Third Asst. Sec. of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to ^{hand} you herewith
Account, with Vouchers, and Returns, to
December 31st 1883 - viz:

- 1st Account, with Vouchers, to Dec. 31st 1883.
 - 2nd Record of Material or Miscellaneous fees.
 - 3rd Return of the only deceased American
Citizen (Estate and effects), Ira T. Crowell.
 - 4th Digest of Invoice Book.
 - 5th Names of persons employed in Consulate.
 - 6th List of dispatches to the Department in 1883.
 - 7th Certificate of the only marriage in 1883.
- There is no other business to report.

re-issued - 729 25

As, owing to irregularity this winter in the arrivals and departures of steamers running between China and America, nearly a month will elapse before another steamer will leave Hong Kong for San Francisco, I respectfully beg to be permitted to mail to the State Department a copy of this dispatch; and endorse in it a Bill of Lading (freight prepaid) for a box of effects, belonging to the Estate of Ira F. Crowell, shipped to the State Department by the S.S. "Gordon Castle", via Guernsey, to New York; with *q/c* returns, showing what disposition was made of the proceeds of said estate; so that the Bill of Lading and Statement of Effects may be in the possession of the State Department by the time the S.S. "Gordon Castle" arrives in New York.

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul.

Duplicate -

Beaver, Falls, Penna
July 1884,

Received of the Department
of State of the United
States, one box contain-
ing the personal effects of
Jas J. Crowell, deceased at
Swatow, China.

J. J. Crowell
Executor in the
Estate of J. J. Crowell (decd.)

No. 61 HONGKONG, 20th Dec 1883

Received from C. Seymour
for shipment per Gordon Castle
to New York

MARK & DESCRIPTION.

State Department
Washington
U.S.A.
One box effects

Freight \$ 1
Stamp 30 (30¢ for 3 stamps)

\$ 1.30 paid here Adamson Bell & Co
J. H. Wheeler
for Master.

Subject to all the conditions specified in the Bills of Lading for Cargo shipped by this vessel. The Owners will not be responsible for loss of or damage to any package beyond the value of £5, unless a special agreement is made at the time of shipment.

ADAMSON, BELL & CO.,
Agents.

Return ^{File} Required by Paragraph 121 } 1-5-23 } Estate of Lra F. Cronell.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

December 31st 1884.

As reported August 8th 1883, to the State Department, in Dispatch #34, Lra F. Cronell, an American citizen, died of cholera, at Swatow, China, July 9th 1883; and Mr. Consular Agent, Wm. J. Jones, sent to the U.S. Consul, at Canton, a small box, containing personal effects of the deceased; which box, unpacked, as per "Sh. Gordon Castle", from Hong Kong to New York, as per accompanying Bill of Lading or Receipt, of Messrs. Adamson, Bell, Company, Agents of the Castle Line of Steamers at Hong Kong.

The wages due to said Lra F. Cronell, deceased, were paid to the U.S. Consul at Canton, by the China Merchants Steam Navigation Company, amounting to Ninety Eight and 50/100 Dollars Mexican = \$98.50

Deducting freight from Swatow to Canton \$2.00
 " " " Hong Kong to New York } 1.30
 " " " and stamp on receipt } 2.00 } \$5.30
 " insurance on \$100 value

Exchange at 100 to 1 - Mexican \$93.20 = \$84.00 (old)

Which amount (Eighty Four Dollars) is credited to the State Department in my a/c rendered for 1/4 yr ending Dec 31st 1883. No other assets are known.

Charles Seymour
 U.S. Consul

(Form No. 87.)

CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE.

Consulate of the United States,

Canton July 26th, 1883.

I, *Gideon Nye* Vice Consul of the United States
at *Canton* do hereby certify that, on this *twenty sixth*
day of *July*, A. D. 1883, at *the residence of Rev. A. H. Hopper, D.D.*
in the city of *Canton*: *Albert Andrew Gilton*
aged *thirty one* years, born in *Dopland, Ohio* and now
residing in *Canton* and *Florence Wishard*
aged *twenty three* years, born in *Rushville, Indiana*
and now residing in *Canton* were united in marriage before
me, and in my presence, by *The Rev. A. H. Hopper, D.D.* who is authorized
by the laws of *The United States* to perform such a ceremony.

In witness whereof I have hereto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of
the Consulate, at *Canton*, this *twenty sixth*
day of *July*, A. D. 1883, and of the Independence of the United
States the *one hundred and eighth*.

Gideon Nye
H. H. Hopper Consul.





No. 42½



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 21-1884

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adee,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Accounts, Vouchers, and Returns
to December 31-1883

SYNOPSIS.

Accounts, Vouchers, & Returns.

Bill of Lading for & Statement of Effects
of Estate of Ira F. Crowsell, deceased.

No. 42 1/2

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 21st 1884.

H^{on}. A. A. Ades

Third Asst. Sec^y of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to hand you
herewith Account, with Vouchers, and
Returns, to December 31st 1883 - viz:

1st Account, with Vouchers, to Dec^r 31st 1883.

2nd Record of Notarial or Miscellaneous fees.

3rd Return of the only deceased American
Citizen (Estate and effects) Lra. P. Corwell.

4th Digest of Invoice Book.

5th Names of persons employed in Consulate.

6th List of dispatches to the Department in 1883.

7th Certificate of the only marriage in 1883.

There is no other business to report.

As, owing to irregularity this winter in the arrivals and departures of steamers running between China and America, nearly a month will elapse before another steamer will leave Hong Kong for San Francisco, I beg respectfully to be permitted to mail to the State Department a copy of this dispatch; and enclose in it a Bill of Lading, ^(freight prepaid) for a box of effects, belonging to the Estate of Eva P. Crowell, shipped to the State Department by the S.S. "Gordon Castle", via Suez Canal, to New York; with a/c & returns, showing what disposition was made of the proceeds of said estate; so that the Bill of Lading and statement of effects may be in possession of the State Department by the time the S.S. "Gordon Castle" arrives in New York.

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully
Your obedient servant
Charles Seymour,
Consul.

Consular
Bureau

U.S. CONSULATE GENERAL
SHANGHAI
JAN 24 1884

TO
MAR 21

No. 43

United States Consulate, Canton, China.
January 24. 1884

McChilton
Appoint
Wm. - m. -
Canton - 1884

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adce,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Consular Agencies.

SYNOPSIS.

Swatow, Pakhoi, Hahow
or Kiumg-blow.

No. 43

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 24th 1884

H^{on}. A. A. Abdee

Third Asst. Sec^y of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to state that since the removal of Mr W^m T. Jones from Bratow, no one fitted to act as U.S. Consular Agent has been willing to be troubled with the Agency at that place; until, fortunately, an excellent and efficient person, Baron von Sckundoff, German Vice Consul, at Bratow, very kindly consented to take charge of the U.S. Consular Agency, with the permission of his Superior Officers and Government. The German Consul, and the

at Canton & Hong Kong, and the German Legation in Peking consented; and the permission of the German government is being obtained.

In the meantime Baron von Seckendorff is acting as U.S. Consular Agent at Canton, with the cordial approval of American residents and all concerned.

The changes, by transfers and promotions, and other causes, among consular officials of European governments in the East, partly on account of climatic considerations, and partly by reason of systematic training for consular and diplomatic duties and stations, makes it very desirable that some more permanent plan of entrusting U.S. consular agencies to European officials in certain cases and places should be immediately adopted.

While asking for recognition and approval of Baron von Seckendorff by the State Department as U.S. Consular Agent at Swatow, I would respectfully and urgently suggest, that in the event of his removal from Swatow, which might occur soon after the receipt of his Commission, his successor as German Vice Consul should be authorized to succeed him also in the U.S. Consular Agency.

There is little or no business at Swatow requiring Consular Service, except in cases of disasters to American ships on the contiguous coast, and the emoluments of the office are so trifling as to make it undesirable, unless it is used as it has been, apparently, as a branch of some speculator's business in promoting land speculations and private business operations.

At Pakhoi, and Hoikow or Kiang Chow, there is no Consular business for the U.S. Agency, unless, perchance, some American ship might get wrecked adjacent or contiguous Coasts.

I would respectfully recommend the entire discontinuance of the Agents at those two places; unless a permanent arrangement can be made to have the British Vice Consuls simply authorized to act as W. Consular Agents in cases of emergency or distress, which might require relief and protection to American Sailors, ships and Cargoes; as the frequent changes of officials in the Consular Service of Great Britain in China reduce commissions from the U.S. Government to persons named alike impracticable and absurd. Between changes there is scarcely time to obtain an agent, and procure consent of his Government, and a Commission from the W. Government; which would consume the greater portion of a year.

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant

Charles Seymour
W. Consul



Rob. & Co.
No. 44 *W. Sullivan*

122
United States Consulate, Canton, China.



January 31, 1884

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul.

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Chinophobia.

SYNOPSIS.

Certificates issued to Chinese at Canton.
Movement of Chinese between
the United States and China.
More Chinese from than to the U.S.

No. 44

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 31-1884

Mr. A. A. Rice

Third Asst. Sec. of State,
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Dispatch No. 40 from the State Department, under date of November 24-1883, informing me that the Secretary of the Treasury, under date of November 14-1883, called attention to statements made to him by the Customs Officers at San Francisco with regard to the arrival at that Port of many Chinese laborers possessing certificates as merchants, students, etc.

issued by the Chinese Customs Officials at Canton"; and that "it appears that the number of merchants or 'traders' arriving from China has steadily increased since the Chinese Superintendent of Customs at Canton has been prepared to issue Certificates; and instructing me, therefore, to examine into the manner of certifying Chinese merchants at Canton, coming to the United States, and the proofs adduced that the applicants are not laborers within the meaning of the Act of May 6th 1882, and to report the result of enquiries to the Department, and also to Mr. Young direct"; to all of which my best attention has been given.

27

In compliance with instructions, I have diligently endeavored to get at the facts of the case, in order to present such light and information as were within my reach upon the entire subject under consideration.

To this end, and to make sure of getting correct information as to the officers who issued certificates or passports to enable Chinese to enter the United States, I addressed a communication to His Excellency, the "Hoppo", or Superintendent of Customs, at Canton, respectfully requesting that he would kindly inform me of the name and location of the Chinese official entrusted with the business of issuing passports or certificates to persons going to the United States of America, in order to enable me to ascertain the process necessary for obtaining such certificates, respecting which I am frequently applied to for information.

He replied promptly, definitely, and courteously; and through the Consul-General of this Consulate I sought the needed information. This call upon the Chinese official

designated by the "Hoppo", has been followed by three interviews at this Consulate, with the concurrence of the "Kiun" and the "Hoppo"; both of whom manifest a sincere desire and a determined purpose to act justly.

The Chinese official entrusted with the business of issuing such certificates seems to have aimed at a true and faithful execution of his duties; by guarding against unworthy applications and applicants for the required certificates, entitling them to enter the United States of America; so far as he could do so, by requiring some reputable business firm to vouch for, and become responsible for, the statements of applicants for certificates, after carefully interrogating the persons in whose favor the certificates were desired; and by requiring a photographic likeness of the applicant or holder of the certificate, to be firmly affixed, under seal, to the certificate before it was issued; as per Form enclosed.

One of those cancelled certificates has been enclosed in my dispatch (of similar purport

to this dispatch) No. 55, under date of 29th instant, to the U.S. Minister, at Peking.

Notwithstanding those precautions, the Chinese official in charge of certificates found or detected attempts to obtain his certificates, by misrepresentation, disguise, and substitution; and in all such cases had the certificates cancelled when discovered.

Specimens of such cancelled certificates were placed by him in my possession, for comparison with credentials or certificates found in hands of Chinese passengers on the steamships going to the U.S.

From his official reports, he shows that only eleven hundred and seventy one Certificates have been issued; and each case stands clear by itself; so that any fair examination of it will verify the point of identity; and locate the responsibility for any error, or deception, or fraud, concerning it.

Having thus obtained the facts, so far as could be learned at Canton, the Interpreter of this Consulate was sent to Hong Kong, bearing a letter from me to the U.S. Consul

at that Port, from which nearly all Chinese passengers depart for the United States, requesting his co-operation, by getting proper permission for carrying certificates in the hands of Chinese passengers" on the outgoing steamer "Arabic" on January 12th 1884; but with the notes of both Consuls, accompanied by the Interpreter of the U. S. Consulate at Hong Kong, the Interpreter of this Consulate (a gentleman of remarkable refinement, having for several years been Interpreter in the Supreme Court in Hong Kong, under Chief Justice Smal-) went to the Office of the Agency of the "Pacific Mail Steamship Company" and of the "Oriental and Occidental Steamship Company"; where he was rudely repulsed; and made the vehicle or medium of insolent messages to the subscriber, for "unwarrantable interference with Chinese emigration".

Finding that channel of information closed against a plan agreed upon by the certificate Commissioner

and myself, with the concurrence of the "Viceroy" and "Hoppo", for comparing genuine certificates with the papers or documents held by Chinese passengers on steamers going to the United States; I have carefully examined, and compiled from the files of daily newspapers in Hong Kong, the shipping and passenger statistics for the entire year of 1883, and for the first month of 1884.

From these items I have been surprised to learn the fact is established that the total departures of Chinese from Hong Kong to San Francisco, including those who went to the Hawaiian Islands, and British North America via San Francisco, and to San Francisco via Honolulu, were about two thousand less than the total number of arrivals of Chinese passengers at Hong Kong from San Francisco, during the year A.D. 1883, and for the past thirteen months the excess of arrivals from the U.S. to China, over departures from China to the U.S., exceeds three thousand of Chinese passengers - equivalent to $\frac{3}{8}$ th of the total departures, or $\frac{3}{10}$ th of total arrivals.

No	Arrival	Steamships	Departure	No
Chinese	Hong Kong		Hong Kong	Chinese
	1883			
392	Jan 4	Coptic City of Tokio.	Jan 4	11
368	" 23	Gaelic	" 16	40
250	" 31	Belgie	" 29	38
191	Feb 9	City of Peking.	Feb 7	18
92	" 14	Arabic	" 20	84
x 37	" 27	Oceanic to S.F. via Honolulu	Mch 1	625
x 50	Mch 11	Coptic to S.F. via Honolulu	" 13	437
x 129	" 30	City of Tokio to S.F. via Honolulu	" 27	491
estd- 149	Apl 16	Gaelic {No report, but estimated about 92 arrivals.}	" 27	471
114	" 20	Belgie	" 27	579
x 153	" 27	City of Peking to S.F. via Honolulu	Both times & quit.	473
200	May 9	Arabic	May 5	522
174	" 27	Oceanic	May 5	764
159	June 3	Coptic	" 21	174
114	" 14	Rio de Janeiro	June 2	255
197	" 26	City of Tokio to S.F. via Honolulu	" 13	100
131	July 14	" " Peking	" 26	100
216	" 28	Arabic	" 26	140
195	Aug 9	Oceanic	July 10	269
254	" 19	Coptic	" 26	140
214	Sep 1	Rio de Janeiro	Aug 8	209
407	" 15	City of Tokio	" 20	76
650	Oct 1	" " Peking	Sep 1	171
680	" 14	Arabic	" 15	189
705	" 27	Oceanic	" 27	233
1050	Nov 9	Coptic	Oct 13	297
640	" 26	Rio de Janeiro	" 27	117
1223	Dec 6	City of Tokio	Nov 17	359
862	" 21	" " Peking	Discontinued	
9882	By estimating only 35 arrivals to Gaelic 2 on April 9, the spec of arrivals is = 2000 J.		Dec 3	362
			" 14	123
			" 31	155
				erroneously published 1570.
				7000
				1000

Continuing these Chinese passenger returns for the month of January 1884, we find the "Arabic" arrived from San Francisco at Hong Kong on the 4th instant, bringing four hundred and thirty one Chinese passengers; and left on the 12th instant for San Francisco with eighty five Chinese passengers; and the succeeding steamer "Oceanic", from San Francisco, brought to Hong Kong, on the 21st instant, eight hundred and four Chinese passengers; and left on the 28th instant, taking fifty five Chinese passengers to San Francisco, and other points.

Those two arrivals, this month = $\frac{431}{804}$ }
 Those two departures, this month = $\frac{85}{55}$ } $\frac{1235}{140}$

Showing excess of arrivals = 1095
 in January 1884.

The total arrivals, for 13 months, over departures for the same time, exceeds 3000; or about 3095; or equivalent to nearly 39 percent of total departures from China to the U.S. & to the Hawaiian Islands, and British North America; nearly fifty per cent of total departures direct to the U.S.

10

From the best sources of information to which I have been able to get access, it appears that out of the total departures of Chinese by the last three steamers, with an aggregate of 295 Chinese passengers, only 12 by the "City of Peking", and only 8 by the "Arabie", and probably about 10 by the "Océanie"; or say only about ten per cent of the total of departures of Chinese passengers, had Chinese certificates to the U.S.

Imputations of dishonesty and bad faith having been so freely made against Chinese officials, in regard to certificates issued at Canton to Chinese passengers to the United States, no certificates have been issued by the Certificate Commissioner since about the middle of November 1883. (Ended 9th Nov.)

The discontinuance occurred by ^{telegraphic} request (as is alleged by apparently authentic officials) of the Chinese Legation in Washington; whose action was about the same date as that of the Secretary of the Treasury.

It will be in the power of U.S. officials at San Francisco to ascertain the nature of the documents supplied to Chinese passengers, from China to the United States, in lieu of the required certificates from Chinese officials at Canton; and at this point might have been involved in the concealment of facts by the Steamship Companies and their officers in Hong Kong, I deem it proper to leave that branch of the business in the hands of those who are clothed with due authority to penetrate the mystery.

Truly $\frac{1}{4}$ th of the Chinese passengers of 1883 went to the Hawaiian Islands; so that it is safe to say that only about six thousand Chinese went to the United States and British North America.

Of that number it is reasonable to assume there were 1171 holders of Chinese certificates, thus leaving about 4829 otherwise supplied with documents from San Francisco or elsewhere.

12/

If one half of the 9882 Chinese passengers who arrived from San Francisco during 1883 were visitors to their native country, and returned ^(or to return) to the United States, with certificates from San Francisco, the entire movement of Chinese passengers between the two countries would be accounted for, both ways.

It should be an easy matter to verify or upset this estimate by reference to the records of the U.S. Custom House and Chinese Consulate in San Francisco.

It seems to be generally understood, that, in the absence of any credentials or certificates whatever, the Chinese passengers who desire to go to the United States can do so, under the operation of proceedings, by virtue of the Habeas Corpus Act, upon arrival of such passengers in the United States.

It will be interesting to note the frequency of such proceedings since the discontinuance of certificates issued at Canton by the Chinese Commissioner.

We are just now in the midst of festivities attending the "Chinese New Year"; which commenced on Monday 28th instant; or about ten days earlier than previous "New Year's Day" - varying with the lunar changes and developments.

Business is suspended throughout the Empire. All solvent Chinese have adjusted their affairs. The public and private seals are locked up. Families, kindred, clansmen, and friends, assemble for festive enjoyments, which are prolonged through the month of February, or first moon of the new year, if means are adequate. From far and near, "absent friends" are expected to return home, for participation in the New Year's festivities.

Filial Devotion impels the sons of China in distant lands to make any reasonable sacrifice in efforts to "keep the feast" with "the old folks at home".

A due appreciation of these facts will serve to explain the statistics of Chinese arrivals and departures herein embodied (on pages 849); a reference to which will demonstrate that for three or four months previous to the Chinese New Year, the tide of Chinese passengers is strongly toward China; and that for the three months succeeding February (or Chinese First Moon) the tide of Chinese passengers tends strongly toward America.

These facts serve to confirm the idea, that, outside of the visiting and returning Chinese passengers, there has not been during the past year any indications of any rush of Chinese to America.

I went into this investigation without prejudice; and must adopt the verdict of the fellow who shared the pig—"Great cry—little wool".

2.

A careful inspection of the items herein stated, in connection with the uproar and clamor raised in regard to alleged invasion of the United States by vast multitudes of Chinese laborers, invests the subject with the appearance of a hobgoblinish phantasmagoria; which, for the want of a better name, might be designated as "China-phobia".

It is difficult to conceive a plan, for the regulation of Chinese passengers to and from the United States, that will secure greater accuracy than the one that was in operation last year, provided identification of the rightful holders of genuine certificates could be secured.

Certainly no foreigner in China possesses such facilities, for the investigation of claims of applicants for certificates, as the Chinese officials; and it may be regarded as a well-established fact, that they are not favorable to the emigration of natives.

7

The step toward proper identification of the rightful holders of certificates issued by the duly authorized Chinese official in Canton might be in the transmission of a duplicate certificate, direct from the Commissioner who issues the certificate, to the Collector of Customs, through the Chinese Consul, at the port of arrival, to be opened in the presence of both officials.

This would establish authenticity of the certificate; and, with proper vigilance and care on their part, the identification of the holder of the certificate could be made.

Transfers of certificates, and substitution of holders, so easily made, that it would be out of the power of any Consular Officers at Canton or Hong Kong to prevent frauds of that nature; while they would not be able to investigate the claims of applicants for certificates with any degree of thoroughness and accuracy, if the natives were disposed to deception or deceit.

Regretting the severity of
many denunciations in America
against Chinese officials; which
are numerited, in regard to intercourse
between the United States and China;
and do not tend to promote good
feeling and friendly relations
between the two countries;

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour,
Minister.

Our enclosure

viz:

1
A

Cancelled Chinese
Passenger Certificate.

No. 25.

DEPARTMENT OF HIS IMPERIAL CHINESE MAJESTY'S
SUPERINTENDENT OF CUSTOMS.

San Francisco, 2nd November 1883.

I, the undersigned, His Imperial Chinese Majesty's Superintendent of Customs in the Kwang-tung Province, hereby certify that *Lum Tze Choy*, a subject of the Empire of China, to whom this certificate is issued, is entitled under the provisions of the Treaty of the sixth year of the Emperor Kwang-Sü, i.e. 1880 between China and the United States, to go and come of his free will and accord to the United States on the presentation of the same to the Collector of Customs of the American port at which he shall arrive.

The required description of his person follows:

NAME.

AGE.

OCCUPATION.

Lum Tze Choy.

Twenty two.

Trader.

RESIDENCE.

HEIGHT.

COMPLEXION.

San Hwai District. Five ft. nine in.

Dark.

COLOR OF EYES.

PHYSICAL PECULIARITIES.

OFFICIAL TITLE.

Black.



Nose.

崇 (Chung.)

SUPERINTENDENT OF CUSTOMS.

Per Deputy

席寶書

(Shi Bao Shoo)

護照

欽命督理粵海關稅務崇

為

發給護照事茲有華人林梓材係照光緒六年即西歷一千八百八十年中國與美國續修條約應准任便往來美國之人合給護照俾到美國埠時交稅關查驗放行並將本人姓名年貌各項列後

計開

姓名林梓材

年歲二十二

事業

向在國貿易現任金山莊轉性餘畢承源隆什貨店司事

住址新會縣

身材英五尺九寸

面色

紫

眼色黑

異相粘映相

職銜

無

可疑

右給華人林梓材收執

光緒九年十月

初貳

日給

扣銷

地字第貳拾伍號

See Chilton
note, 4th. It seems to me that
copy of dispatch No. 45. Should go to
Army General
and perhaps
United States Consulate, Canton, China.



February 20 - 1884

W.F.

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Chium parrung's certificates.

SYNOPSIS,

Continuation of statements in
dispatch No. 44, dated January 31st
1884, to the State Department; direct
in compliance with instructions.

No. 45

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

February 20th 1884

Mr. A. A. Adee

Third Asst. Sec. of State

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor, in compliance with instructions from the State Department, in confirmation of the statements in my dispatch No. 44, dated January 31st 1884, in regard to Chinese passengers' certificates, to inform you, that, after mailing that dispatch, specific cases of such certificates, alleged to have been held by persons who had no right, under existing Treaty, between China and the United States, to enter them, came to my knowledge through published reports of proceedings in a California Court.

Whereupon, I immediately addressed to His Excellency, Tsung, the "Hoppo," or Superintendent of Customs, in Canton, a communication bearing date of February 7th 1884, as per Copy hereto affixed, and designated "A. A," requesting more definite information in regard to the certificates, specified by numbers, and mentioned in San Francisco journals, as having been produced in Court, bearing evidence of having been fraudulently used or obtained by Chinese passengers.

Nine days having elapsed without getting any reply from the "Hoppo," I sent to him a note, dated February 18th 1884, as per^{copy} designated "B. B.," hereto affixed, requesting the favor of an answer to my communication, in time to enable me to send the required information, per first mail steamer, to the United States Government.

Some allowance should be made, on account of the general observance of the "Chinese New Year" festivities, for suspension of business, and failure to get reply to my communication to the "Hopfoo" dated February 7th 1884.

On Monday 18th February, 1884, I received from the "Hopfoo" acknowledgments of my communications of 7th and 16th instant; and information that he had submitted the former one (dated 7th inst) to the "Board of Administration" (composed of high Chinese Officials, subordinate to, and co-operating with the Viceroy), designated by the Chinese title of "Shan Hai Chie"; and that he would communicate to me their answer after due consideration.

In the meantime, the Certificate Commissioner, "Shew-Pow-Shü", has assured me that no one except himself has been or is authorized in the Province of "Quang-Tung" (Canton); and has this day sent to me a written detailed statement of the several certificates, specified by the San Francisco Bulletin as having been found in possession of Chinese passengers per S. S. Oceanic at San Francisco about the middle of December 1883, not entitled to certificates. The Chinese copy affixed as "C. C."

The numbers thus specified as fraudulently used or obtained were 623, 836, 837, 908, 962 & 983. According to the official records of the Certificate Commissioner the facts are as follow. N^o 623, alleged to have been issued to ^{held by} "Chen Foon Law", trader, who had been in California before, and declared in Court in San Francisco that he was an actor, and had not been previously in the United States; was issued Sept 24, 1883, in favor of "Mah Loung Tim", 35 years of age, returning to the United States, and vouched for by a respectable boot & shoe shop keeper named "Mah Sun Hok", as security. Any other certificate than that issued by Commissioner "Shek Pow Shii", bearing N^o 623 was probably unauthorized or fraudulent.

N^o 836, alleged to have issued to and held by "Chun Wun Kai", trader, and stating he had been previously in the U.S, while he declared in Court that he had not been in America before; was issued by Commissioner "Shek Pow Shii", October 14th 1883, in favor of "Low Loung", returning to the U.S. (aged 35 years) and vouched for by a respectable dealer in stationery named (shop name) Low On. Any other certificate bearing N^o 836 was apparently unauthorized or fraudulent.

No. 837, alleged to have been held by Lau Kow, or Low Kow, trader, returning to the U.S. although the holder declared in Court that he had never been in the U.S. previously; was issued by the Commissioner, to Lau Kow, or Low Kow, as returning to the U.S. (43 years of age), vouched for by the same Shop Keeper as No. 836.

This may have been a case of substitution, which could easily be detected by photograph.

No. 908, was issued to "Lai Tow King", an ^{accountant in a silk merchandise shop}, on representation of being 24 years of age, and his security, or voucher being a stocking maker, whose shop is known as "Lee Kam Tuen".

The copy of certificate on file in Canton does not describe him as returning but going to U.S.

This may be another case of substitution; or, if not, the fraudulent representation, if established, can be severely dealt with in Canton.

No. 962, described as alleged, held by and issued to "Ng A. Yau", aged 22 years, as returning to the U.S. Secured in Canton by a shoe-maker shop known as "Ng Phee Wing".

If fraud is established, the guilty person, whether holder or surety, can and will be punished. Certificate issued Oct 26/80.

N^o. 983, alleged to have been held by the "Ng Ming Chuek", on pretense of returning to the U.S., was issued by the Commissioner to "Yui-Kok-Nam", aged 42 years, with well known shop or firm named Yui-Chan Chue, in the jade-stone business. Certificate was issued Oct 27th 1883.

If any of the certificates that have been found thoroughly fraudulent could be sent here to be compared with official records, the fraud might be detected and punished. The sureties are liable to penalties and costs if any misrepresentation has been made.

If any care is taken in regard to identification, it will not be easy to evade the law.

In addition to the Chinese passenger business between the ports of San Francisco, I have ascertained that sailing ships between ~~Portland~~ ports on the American Coast north of San Francisco, and the port of Hong Kong, carry Chinese passengers, that may be approximately estimated at about one thousand each way.

If any clearly established case of fraud can be proved in an authentic shape, accompanied by the Certificate issued by any one not designated as Commissioner of Passenger Certificates; or accompanied by one of his certificates issued on misrepresentation, or on fictitious claims of any kind; I will, if permitted by the State Department, make it my duty to test the value or security of the vouchers required and taken by the Chinese official or Commissioner in Canton, in issuing such certificates.

Nearly all of the Chinese passengers to and from the United States belong to this Province of Kwang-Tung; and I am sure the Chinese authorities will do their utmost to conduct this business on a fair and true basis; and discourage fraud of every kind.

I am, Sir, Most Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour
McLeann

3 Affixtures
A.A.
B.B.
C.C.

N. A.

(Copy)

United States Consulate,
Canton, China,
February 7th 1884.

To His Excellency,

Tsing,
The "H. H. P.",
or Superintendent of Customs,
Canton.

Sir:

I have the honor to respectfully ask you to be kind enough to aid me in explaining, to the Government of the United States of America, some matters that are invested with mystery, in regard to the certificates held by Chinese passengers arriving in San Francisco.

On the 4th day of January 1884, I had the honor of addressing to Your Excellency a letter, asking for the name and location of the Chinese official who is entrusted with the business of issuing passports or "certificates" to persons going to the United States of America; and you were kind enough to inform me that his name is "Shew-Pow Shui", who has communicated to me

the information as to the manner in which those certificates were issued; and that none had been issued since November 10th 1883; up to which time eleven hundred and seventy one certificates had been issued.

Since my reply to the communications from my government on this business, in which I adopted the statements of Mr. "Sheh-Pow-Shui" as my basis; it has come to my knowledge that examinations of Chinese passengers who arrived at San Francisco about the middle of December 1883, per Steamship "Oceanic", which left Hong Kong November 17th 1883, disclosed the facts that many holders of certificates, purporting to have been issued by Chinese officials in Canton, were not entitled to them under the Treaty between China and the United States of America.

The examinations of Chinese passengers in the California Courts showed that some one else besides "Sheh-Pow-Shui" has been issuing certificates; and I therefore ask whether you have learned of any one besides "Sheh-Pow-Shui" having issued certificates.

The name of "Chang" or "Chun" was affixed to the certificates which appeared to have been fraudulently obtained, or issued, and used.

In addition to information above asked, please inform me to whom, or in whose favor, were issued Certificates numbered 623, 836, 837, 908, 962 and 983; as the holders of those numbers are reported to have conferred in the California Court that the certificates they held were not fraudulent.

I regret very much to trouble Your Excellency with these matters at this time, when the festivities of the "New Year" in China should not be marred by business; but I respectfully plead urgency in this case, in order that I may immediately reply to the United States Government, and to its Legation at Peking, in regard to this business.

With compliments and esteem,
herewith please find Card of,

These affixtures

A.A.
S.B.
C.C.

Very Respectfully,

Charles Seymour
Consul of the United States of America

"B. H. B."

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

February 16th 1887
To His Excellency, Tsung,
The "Hoppo",
Canton.

The American
Consul sends his compliments
and card, and respectfully
requests - that answer may
be made to his communication
in regard to Chinese passenger
certificates, in time to enable
him to send full dispatch,
on Wednesday 20th instant,
to the Government of the United
States, per Steamship mail,
leaving Hong Kong on the
following day.

Very Respectfully
Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul

C. H. C.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

July 20th 1884

Below will be found copy of the Chinese Certificate Commissioner's statements in regard to certificates numbered 823, 836, 837, 908, 962 + 983, alleged to have been held by passengers arriving in San Francisco fraudulently. The substance of the Chinese statements are given in English on pages 4, 5 + 6 of Dispatch No. 45 to State Department.

劉南閣 四十二歲 新會縣人 復往金山委利市埠廣 華源大食店司事 担保大新街瑞玉卷店 金贊照 九年九月廿七日填	劉伍阿祐 二十二歲 新會縣人 復往金山咖啡市那保和 堂藥材店司事 担保馬鞍街三色雜店 伍時永 九年九月廿六日填	劉黎圖敬 二十歲 鶴山縣人 現往金山埠和綸 蘇杭什貨店司事 担保故衣街錦源雜店 李鑑泉 九年九月廿一日填	劉求 四十三歲 新會縣人 復往美國埠廣利 記什貨店生理 担保弟前隆隆筆店 劉安 九年九月十四日填	劉隆 三十五歲 新會縣人 復往美國埠福和 什貨店生理 担保弟前隆隆筆店 劉安 九年九月十四日填	馬龍添 二十五歲 新會縣人 復往金山埠靈港 記烟行生理 担保關前草生雜店 馬心龍 九年八月十四日填
---	--	---	---	--	--



No. 46

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

April 15th 1884

and J. H. Morrison
Aug 11/84

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Enclosing Quarterly Account
and Returns for 4 ending
March 31st 1884.

SYNOPSIS.

No. 46

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

April 15 - 1884

Mr. A. A. Adee

Third Asst. Sec. of State
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to hand you
herewith Account, with vouchers; and
Returns for Quarter ending 31st March
1884.

I am, Sir, Very Resp^{ly}
Your Obedient Servant
Charles Seymour
W. Consul

Enclosures

1. Quarterly Account for Rent and Miscell. Expenses.
2. Vouchers in Duplicate No. 1 to No. 12.
3. Digest of Invoice Book.
4. Statement that no other Returns are to be made.



Lt. Col.

No. 47

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

April 25-1884

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Alder,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

*Ac Ky No 46, and enclosing
Vouchers required by Department
from M. Consular Agency at Swatow.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Swatow Interpreter's Receipts
for first and third quarters of 1882.*

No. 47

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

April 25th 1884

W. A. A. Rice

Third Asst. Secy of State
Washington D C

Sir:

I have the honor to
acknowledge receipt of dispatch
N^o. 46, dated January 31st 1884,
from the State Department, requiring
✓ vouchers for salary of Interpreter
at M. Consular Agency in Swatow,
for first and third quarters of 1883,
which are enclosed the same having
just now come to hand.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant

Charles Seymour
M. Consul



*Copy to Treasury
June 25/84
No. 48*

Leg. Clair

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 12th 1884

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

*Hon. A. A. Alden,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

Chinese Export Duty.

SYNOPSIS.

*A Rtg State Department's No. 45,
enclosing Copy of letter from
Sec'y of Treas'y about Invoice No. 690,
and Export duty, in China.*

No. 48

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 12th 1884

Am. Ad. Addee.

Third Asst. Sec. of State.

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of State Department dispatch numbered 45, dated January 28th 1884; enclosing copy of a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury; requiring information touching Chinese "Export Duty," with special reference to Invoice No. 690, certified at this Consulate on the 15th day of November 1883; in reply to all of which, I have to make the following statements.

1/

The Invoice referred to was four Cases containing 325 doz silk handkerchiefs of the dutiable value of \$1681.92 = \$5.14²/₁₀ Mex.ⁿ per dozen. That seems to be an honest valuation. Among the non-dutiable "Charges" in that Invoice is the item of "Chinese Duty, \$85.32 Mexican".

The Chinese Export Duty on such merchandise, payable at the Custom House before the permit is issued, to authorize shipment of the goods, amounts to twelve taels (of the Hai Kwan standard of silver) per picul of one hundred catties in weight.


The Hai Kwan Tael of silver is equivalent to about one and ⁵/₁₀₀ Mexican dollars in Canton; but the value fluctuates, with scarcity or abundance of silver.

The Catty is equivalent to one pound and a third of a pound ("avoirdupois") in weight, or $2\frac{1}{3}$ ounces.

The picul consists of one hundred catties; and is therefore equal to $133\frac{1}{3}$ lbs.

Fairbanks' scales are used at the Chinese Custom House; and great care is observed by the foreign Clerks or officials of the Customs Department to secure accuracy of weights.

Assuming that \$18.60 duty was exacted and paid as Export duty on the four cases of handkerchiefs, four and a half piculs, or about six hundred pounds should have been about the weight of the silk *Madz* in the four cases.

As there seems to be no mystery or complication whatever in regard to the *Madz* in said Invoice No. 690; which was from the highly reputable and long established English firm of Messrs Thomas, Bone and Smith; carrying *Madz* sold to a merchant in San Francisco, named Messrs J. R. Simon & Co; marked 

4

But the Secretary of the Treasury discloses a fact in his letter which the Collector of Customs at San Francisco very properly brought to the notice of the Treasury Department - viz: that Invoices certified at Hong Kong also included "export duty"; and this brings up and revives an old contest which I have no desire to engage in, after long and somewhat bitter correspondence has passed back and forth between the State Department and the Consulates at Canton & Hong Kong, in regard to restricting Consular Certificates to Invoices of Chinese merchandise to a Chinese Consulate instead of allowing them to be certified at a Chinese Consulate or at a British Consulate, at the option of the shippers.

You do not permit Invoices of wool bought in France, for shipment to the United States, to be certified at a Consulate in Belgium or England.

In this matter I am persuaded, from a perusal of by-gone correspondence, that the State Department, and the Treasury Department, have both departed from the straight course; and permitted Chinese, British, German and American shippers of Chinese merchandise to systematically amuse, set aside, disregard and over-ride all rules and regulations and laws, which call for Consular Certificates from the Consulates of countries from which goods are shipped to the United States.

In proof of this statement, it is only necessary to refer to the fact, that the records of this Consulate do not show one single instance, during many past years, of an Chinese shipper or exporter of merchandise going to the United States, getting his invoice certified in Canton; notwithstanding numerous Chinese are constantly shipping merchandise from Canton to the United States.

Hong Kong is not a seat of manufactures. Canton is a great manufacturing center.

Hong Kong is a free-port, with no Custom House; and has nothing to do with import or export duties; while Canton has both Imperial and Native Customs; and collects both import and export duties.

Why should an invoice of Chinese goods bought in, and shipped from Canton, for merchants in the United States, be certified in Hong Kong; or, if certified, why should the item of "export duties" be recognized as a non-deductible item at the U.S. Custom House?

One of the large Exporters or shippers of Canton goods to the United States, the German firm of Messrs. Arnold, Harberg & Co., having houses both in Canton and Hong Kong, never get an invoice certified in Canton.

Some other firms also persist in a similar course; if the State and Treasury Departments approve of it, I shall not object; but please maintain a consistent course.

And while on the subject of
 services, it is proper to
 state, that numerous complaints
 have been made at this Consulate,
 by respectable exporters and shippers
 of merchandise from Canton to
 the United States, that their con-
 stitutions and correspondents and
 customers in America have been
 compelled to pay duty on "charges",
 which the U.S. Tariff Law of
 March 1883 clearly exempted
 from duty; and that they had been
 compelled to pay to the U.S. Customs
 duty on packages, duty on Export
 duty, &c. &c., to the complete
 and utter disregard of items
 thus specified in Consular invoices.

I have been asked to call the
 attention of the State & Treasury
 Departments to these matters.

Notably have there complaints been made
 in reference to non-exemption from duty, at the
 Wharves Houses, of packages containing fire-crackers,
 which packages are only necessary for use in transportation;
 these never included in ordinary notice to office.

Another item in connection with Consular Invoices should be mentioned; and will, I trust, be received with attention to a suggested remedy.

The Consular Officer is required to issue Certificates in quadruplicate instead of triplicate, for triplicate fee, when the cargo goes in transit through one port (of arrival) to a second port (of entry); but the Consular Officer is required to send one of the certified invoices to the Collector of the port of entry; whereas he should be required also to send one of the certified invoices to the Collector of the port of first arrival.

Why? Because the invoice which should reach the Collector of port of first arrival often gets into the hands of the Shippers who cash the drafts drawn against the cargo; or into the hands of the Carriers, who are then in obtaining bonds of indemnity from connecting Carriers against liability for duties; &c. &c.

Numerous instances of the failure of invoices to reach the Collectors at ports of first arrival have come to my knowledge.

I would respectfully suggest that the Consul Officer be required, besides keeping one copy of the invoice on file at the Consulate, to send one copy to each of the Collectors of the two Ports at which the duty appears - first in transit, & secondly

Having been compelled to supply so many extra copies gratuitously, to make good the deficiency, after the full quadruplicate invoices had been certified to, I make the suggestion as an act of justice to all concerned.

And, as the Treasury Department may be glad to supply the Collectors of Ports, at which duty from China may be entered, with a memorandum of the "Export Duty" collected by Chinese Customs; I will append the list of such items as are likely to require reference occasionally.

I am, Sir, Very respectfully,
Your obedient Servant

Charles Seymour
W. Seymour

Articles.	Quantity.	Export Duty, China.			
		Taxs. #11.55 May	Slace.	Candarine	Cash.
Trinidad, Star	Per 100 Cattie		5 00		
" , broken	" " "		9 50		
" , oil	" " "	5	0 00		
Chinaware	" " "		7 50		
Canes	" thousand		5 00		
Cassia, lignea	" 100 Cattie		6 00		
" , buds	" " "		8 00		
" , twigs	" " "		1 50		
" , oil	" " "	9	0 00		
Chinaware, fine	" " "		9 00		
" , coarse	" " "		4 50		
Carvings, antique	\$ per cent ad valorem	-	-	-	-
Fans, feather	per hundred		7 50		
" , paper	" "		4 50		
" , Platinum	" thousand		3 60		
" , " nutrim ^d	" "		2 00		
Glass, beads	" 100 Cattie		5 00		
Iron Cloth, fine	" " "	2	5 00		
" , coarse	" " "		7 50		
Organs	" Catty		1 50		
Engineered ware	" 100 Cattie	1	0 00		
Mattings	" roll of 40 yds		2 00		
Paper, 1 st quality	Per 100 Cattie		7 00		
" , 2 ^d "	" " "		4 00		

Ganton, China, May 12th 1884. The "Export Duty" on the articles here specified is correct.

Charles Heywood
W. L. Heywood

1 Tael = \$1.55 May 1st 1884.
1 slace = 1/10th of a Tael or 15 1/2 cts May 1st.
1 Candarine = 1/100th of a Tael or 1 1/2 cts May 1st.
1 Cash equal to about one mill or 1/10th of a cent.

Chinese Exports Duty		Tax	Duty	Value
Pictures & paintings	Each		1	00
" on pith or rice paper	per hundred		1	00
Battery, Earthenware	Per 100 catties		50	
Preserves	" " "		500	
Kattans, Hbit	" " "		2	50
Kattamware	" " "		3	00
Rhubarb	" " "	1	2	50
Sandalwood ware	Per catty		1	00
<u>Silks - viz:</u>				
raw & thrown	Per 100 catties	10	0	00
yellow from Szechuen	" " "	7	0	00
revelled from Dupions	" " "	5	0	00
wild & raw	" " "	2	5	00
Refuse	" " "	1	0	00
Cocoons	" " "	3	0	00
flow Canton	" " "	4	3	00
" from other Provinces	" " "	10	0	00
ribbons & thread	" " "	10	0	00
Piece-goods, pongees, shawls, } scarfs, Crapes, satin, gauzes, } velvet & embroidered goods &c }	per 100 catties -	12	0	00
Piece goods from Szechuen & Shantung	Per 100 catties	4	5	00
Silk tuncles	" " "	10	0	00
" Caps	per hundred		9	00
Silk & Cotton mixtures	Per 100 catties	5	5	00

Chinese Export Duty		Tael = about \$1.55 Mex.	Maas = about 1/10 th of Tael = 15.5¢	Candarine = 1/100 th of Tael	Carb. tax about 1/100 th of Tael
	Catty = 133 1/3 lbs				
Silver & gold ware	Per 100 Catties	10	0	0	0
Soy	" " "		4	0	0
Shaw Naid	" " "		7	0	0
Sugar, brown	" " "		1	2	0
" , white	" " "		2	0	0
Tea	" " "	2	5	0	0
Wood ware	" " "	1	1	5	0

Catty = 1 1/3 lb.

100 Catties = 1 picul or 133 1/3 lbs

~~1 picul~~

1 Hai Kuan Tael = about \$1.55 Mex

1 Maas = 1/10 th of a Tael.

1 Candarine = 1/100 th of a Tael.

Carb. = about one mill.



St Clair
No. 49

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 13th 1884

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adee,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

*Amid ask
interpreter Mar 21/85
Instructed to
Kinn chow Pakhoi
if Consul approve
Mar 31/85*

Subject.

*Nominations; and Correction or
Revision of Register*

SYNOPSIS.

*Vice Consul at Canton, Liden Nye.
Consular Agents. { At Swatow, Baron van Ledenhoff.
 { At Kienyehow or Hoikow, Thomas Watters
 { At Pakhoi, Octavius Johnson.
Interpreter (Chinese), Canton, Chinn Poy Koo.
Writer (Chinese), Canton, Lee-U. Lin.
Constable. Charles Lin Sheng.*

US Consulate General
Shanghai May 20 1884
I approve of the within
nominations.

FD Cheskie
Vice Consul General
in charge

No. 49

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 13th 1884

H^{on}. A. A. Adee.

Third Asst. Sec^y of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to make the following nominations as required by Consular Rules and Regulations.

Vice Consul, Canton, is Gideon Nye; who was duly Commissioned in 1882, and has been retained, and desires to continue in that capacity, with my approval.

Baron von Sickingen, Legation, the German Consul at that Port, with the Consent of the Government of Germany, is acting acceptably and efficiently, as United States Consular Agent at Swatow, China.

I think we have written more or less.

I believe the American citizens at Swatow and vicinity unitedly approve of that selection; and recognize in Baron von Siekendorff a capable and friendly Officer. The former Consular Agent, Wm. T. Jones, returned to the United States; and no one suitable could be found to take the Agency, until Baron von Siekendorff kindly consented, with permission of his Government, to act as U.S. Consular Agent at Swatow, commencing November 1st 1883.

The. Watters (British Consul) since April 20th 1884, has acted as U.S. Consular Agent at Kiungchow, as successor to J. H. Jordan, removed to some other locality; and, if that Agency is to be continued by the State Department, the British Consul is the only person qualified to act as U.S. Consular Agent at Kiungchow - the real port being Haichow, but in the Kiungchow District.

At Pakhoi, the only person qualified to act as U.S. Consular Agent, is the present British Consul, Octavius Johnson, who continues as U.S. Consular Agent.

There is, however, no business for the U.S. Consular Agent at either Kuingchow (or Hoichow), or Pakhoi; unless some American citizen might be ship-wrecked in the vicinity of one or the other of these ports.

I strongly suspect that the Consul at Canton who persuaded the State Department to establish Consular Agencies at Kuingchow (or Hoichow) and Pakhoi, imagined he might derive pecuniary benefits therefrom, through fees on Consular business; but I would urgently recommend their discontinuance; as there is no business whatever; and as there are no American residents at either of these ports; and therefore the Agencies are of no practical account or utility, and utterly fictitious in character.

The Chinese Interpreter, at the U.S. Consulate in Canton, since April 1st 1884, is Chinn Soy Goo; who was one of the Chinese students in America for ten years; and returned to China in 1884.

The former Interpreter was a very competent and accomplished gentleman, but had so many affairs to attend to outside of his Consulate, that his attendance and performance of duties at the Consulate became so irregular and unreliable as to amount, practically, to abandonment of the position of Interpreter.

Without being able to procure proof necessary for his conviction, I had reason to believe, from facts brought to my knowledge, that he was engaged in illicit business; by ^{and} taking advantage of his official connection with the Consulate, was deriving considerable income from sources; which, in time, would involve all concerned in the Consulate in difficulty, that could only be averted by entire severance of his relations with the Consulate.

One applicant for the vacancy was a Chinaman of considerable fortune, who was eleven years Interpreter in the U.S. Consulate at Hong Kong; and you can form some idea of the importance attached by a Chinaman to an office of this nature, which invests him with opportunities to obtain illegitimate benefits, when I state that he addressed me a letter in which an offer of seven hundred dollars was made for his appointment as Interpreter of this Consulate.

Many of the young Chinamen who arrive to the United States as students are capable and talented young men, who have been sadly neglected by the Chinese Government since their return to China; which fact, in connection with their strong attachments to the United States Government and people, should suggest the feasibility and desirability of looking to that source for supply of Interpreters in the U.S. Consulates in China.

Lee U Lin (Lee U Lin) is the Chinese Writer at the U.S. Consulate, in Canton; and as he is a highly educated man, a superior writer, and a trusty, faithful, and useful Chinaman, of unblemished character, I desire his continuance.

Charles Lindberg is the Constable at the U.S. Consulate; and is the Chief of Police on Shamoen. He is a vigilant and useful officer; and has often averted and prevented serious mischief, by his prompt and timely attention to disorderly, drunken and turbulent persons, who might have jeopardized American interests.

Please notice, by comparing wrong names in Register with the right names herein supplied, that several corrections of the Register are necessary.

I am, Sir,

Very Respectfully,
Your obedient servant

Charles Skysmond
McLoud

con



W. S. Clark

No. 57

D. H. Clair

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 9 - 1884

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

*Reply to Labor Circular
of February 15th - 1884.*

SYNOPSIS.

No. 50

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 9 - 1884

H. A. A. Adee

Third Asst. Sec. of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor, in compliance with the "Labor Circular" of February 15th 1884, received 7th instant, from the State Department, to make the following statement, showing the value of labor in Canton, and vicinity; or Southern China.

The rates of wages paid to laborers of various classes are as follow; and the compensation stated generally requires their services "from day-light to dark"; with half-pay allowance for holidays; and understanding that every laborer provides his own sustenance - an hour of time being allowed for mid-day meal; and a few minutes, for noon and afternoon, for tea & refreshment.

Class - \$4.50 to \$5.50 per Month.
 Bakers, book-binders, brick-makers, wine-makers, butchers, confectioners, cigar-makers, distillers of essences, boatmen, dyers, gardeners, hat and cap makers, shoe-makers, nail-makers, potters, printers, leather-ware makers, saddle and harness makers, tailors, tin-smiths, porters, City-laborers, receive from \$4.50 (U.S. Currency) to \$5.50 (U.S. Currency) per month.

Class - \$4.50 to \$8.00 per Month.
 Bricklayers, masons, plasterers, roofers, plumbers, Carpenters, blacksmiths, iron founders, Cabinet-makers, coopers, cutlers, engravers, jewelers, lithographers, sail-makers, weavers (outside of mills, of which there are few worthy of the name of mills), glass-makers, shipyard laborers, range from \$4.50 (U.S. Cy) to \$8.00 (U.S. Cy) per month, according to skill.

Other classes.

3

Employers in shops and stores in City, get from \$3.50 (U.S.C.) to \$4.50 (U.S.C.) per month.

Sailors on Chinese junks and native boats get from \$3.50 to \$5.50 per month; and on River and coast Steamers, from \$6.00 (U.S.C.) to \$14.00 (U.S.C.) per month, according to experience and responsibility. Stevedores range from \$9.00 to \$13.50 per month.

Soldiers get \$4.50 (U.S.C.) per month.

Teachers, with from 25 to 40 pupils, receive from \$3.00 to \$4.50 (from two to three Taels) per year for each pupil; with "Holidays' presents" according to circumstances.

Telegraph Operators (Chinese & Students in U.S.) get from \$20.00 to \$30.00 per month.

In Mines and for mining, miners men receive twenty cents per day; and women and boys, for pumping & carrying, fifteen cents per day.

Household wages, to in-door servants, and for country land-laborers, ~~then~~ ^{in the service of native employers,} are usually about one Tael, or \$1.50 (U.S.C.) per month, with food, and feast-day gifts; which last item is fairly and liberally equitably respected, and so applied ^{well} to be an incentive to industry.

Foreigners usually get good cooks and house servants at from \$7.00 to \$10.00 per month - the servants generally arrange with the Cook for "chow" or food at \$2. to \$2.25 per month.

4

The staple article of food is rice; & the ordinary cost of nourishment for laborers and the industrial class of Chinese, is from \$2.00 to \$2.50 per month, according to fluctuations in the value of rice, and the extent of lubricating the inner man with native groundnut oil (in lieu of butter) and morsels of pork, fish, &c. In fact, the cost of living has been reduced to the minimum standard; and all seem to be healthy and contented; and as for industry, every ounce of muscle in men, women, and children above three years of age, is utilized, until indolence is scarcely visible.

The currency of the common people is a small Copper Coin called "Cash", equivalent to about one mill, or one tenth of a cent; and that of the business classes is silver, for weighing which nearly every one is supplied with Coin ^{made-substitutes for} scales, or small "steel-yards".

There is very little chance for any one to get out of the groove of life in which his lot was cast.

Although the severities of "Caste", as known in some countries of Asia, are not in force in China; the boundaries and spheres of the various classes are clearly defined, and practically recognized & enforced.

5

If every free-trader in America
 were compelled to subsist on the
 diet, and conform to the economics
 of Asia, which holds half of
 the population of the Globe;
 and realized the miserable
 scale or standard of human
 existence prevalent in those
 cheap-labor countries; between
 which and the well-requited
 industry of the United States,
 the adoption of inter-national
 agrarianism, called "Free-Trade",
 would establish an average; there
 would be less clamor in favor of
 a pernicious policy, which contemplates
 competition between two systems
 of labor, with the certainty of
 leveling down American labor,
 to the point at which it is proposed
 to elevate the value of Asiatic labor;
 which is satisfied with from twenty
 to fifty cents per day; & garbage for food.

I am Sir, Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour
 U.S. Consul



*Enter Marriage
Noted*

No. 51



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

July 11 1884

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adce,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Ending Account,
with Vouchers,
and Returns.*

SYNOPSIS.

No. 51

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

July 11 - 1884

L. H. A. Lee

Third Asst. Secy of State.

Washington D.C.

[Signature]

I have the honor to send
you herewith Account, with
Vouchers, and Returns, to
June 30. 1884, inclusive.

No business reported from
any Consular Agency in this District
for the past Quarter.

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Raymond,

McConnel,

Canton.

Stat
file
file

{ Enclosures,
Account Wm. ^{Wm.} tied
Returns tied.

sent.
M

Found in Duke's Brother
Sep. 12, 1882.

(FORM No. 87.)

CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE.

Consulate of the United States,

Canton May 1st 1884.

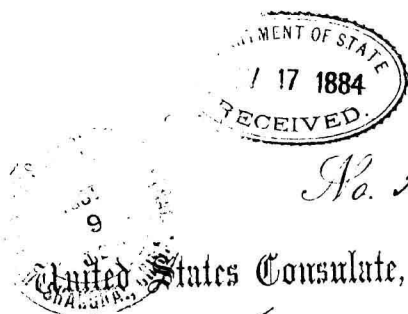
I, *Gideon Nye* Vice Consul of the United States
 at *Canton*, do hereby certify that, on this *first*
 day of *May*, A. D. 1884, at *First Presbyterian Church*
 in the city of *Canton*, *Francis Williams Damon*
 aged *thirty one* years, born in *Honolulu, H. I.* and now
 residing in *Canton*, and *Mary Rebecca Happer*
 aged *twenty five* years, born in *Huntingdon Co. Penn^a*
 and now residing in *Canton, China* were united in marriage before
 me, and in my presence, by *Rev^d S. C. Damon, D.D.*
Rev^d A. P. Happer, D.D. assisted by *me* who is authorized
 by the laws of *the United States* to perform such a ceremony.

In witness whereof I have hereto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of
 the Consulate, at *Canton*, this *first*
 day of *May*, A. D. 1884, and of the Independence of the United
 States the *one hundred and eighth*

Gideon Nye
H. Nye

Consul.





*The account is
No. 52 approved, 874 Claire*

Sept 27 1884 *2, Apt Sec*

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

*Explanation satisfactory
and Auditor reported
to his committee
Came 10/13/85*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adce,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.*

*So Aud
Feb 14/85*

Subject.

*Acknowledgment of, and compliance
with, Dispatch No. 51, from the Department
of State, dated August 11-1884.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Items of expenses incurred in Chinese
passengers Certificate investigations,
at Canton and Hong Kong, by orders of
Department of State and U. S. Legation.*

No. 52

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

September 27 1884

Mr. Robert A. [unclear]

Kind Sir, Dept. of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Dispatch No. 51, from the Department of State, under date of August 11 1884, and to comply with its requisition for full particulars as to item of Fifty One Dollar (\$51.00) in [unclear] rendered for quarters ending March 31st 1884, for expenses incurred in the investigation, at Canton and Hong Kong, of Chinese passenger Certificates, by order of the Department of State, and United States Legation.

2

Agreeably with instructions conveyed to me in Dispatch, No. 40, from the Department of State, under date of November 21st 1883, I investigated, as thoroughly as possible, the facts in the matter referred to, in Canton; and sent the Interpreter of this Consulate to Hong Kong to glean information from the outgoing passengers of the Steamer then leaving for San Francisco, and from other sources; the results of which investigation were fully set forth in my Dispatches, No. 44, dated January 31st 1884, and No. 45, dated February 20th 1884, to the Department of State; and in my Dispatches, No. 55, dated January 29th 1884, and No. 60, dated February 27th 1884, to the U. S. Minister, at Peking. The expenses thus incurred amounted to \$10.00.

C

Of these ten dollars, four dollars were expended in sending the Chinese Interpreter in chains to find and interrogate the native official who had been entrusted with these Certificates, and in an inspection of the records and documents of his office, to verify statements.

Six of these ten dollars were expended in sending the Chinese Interpreter to Hong Kong, as stated on last page; and the expenses of his excursion were one dollar for deck passage each way on steamer, and one dollar per day for board and lodging during four days of absence. The above foregoing explanations will account for ten dollars incurred in the first investigation of the Chinese passenger Certificates.

The facts reported to the Department and Legation embarrassed the Minister, in regard to locating the responsibility of the alleged irregularities as to Certificates; and he wrote me very plainly his desire for more definite information, in his dispatch #70, under date of Peking, March 7th 1884.

4

In that dispatch he said -
 "I must ask you to give the
 subject special and immediate attention.
 I think it would be well for you to visit
 Hong Kong in person, and obtain the
 information obtainable. It is clear
 from the Department's instructions that
 fraudulent certificates have been issued.
 The point is to discover the authors
 of this fraud. If it is the work of
 Chinese officials unknown to you,
 either for gain, or in defiance of our treaty
 rights, the remedy is in our hands. If
 it is done at Hong Kong or elsewhere, then
 we have no control over it.
 This it is imperative to establish
 at once, and beyond peradventure.
 I do not see how you can do so
 without a careful study of the
 question in person at Hong Kong.
 I attach as much importance to
 the question, and especially to the
 points of the responsibility devolving
 upon the Legation, that I shall, under the
 affairs intrusted, visit Canton, and confer with you."

That called for a thoroughness of investigation which could not be performed by proxy or without some expense; and he was very much inclined to believe a similar amount of work could not be obtained at so small a cost.

I took with me three Chinamen, representing the three chief or principal classes in China. One is a scholar. Another is a servant, with some faculty for business - his father being a tobacco merchant. The third is a "Coolie" or laborer. All were in my employment, and somewhat reliable. No charge made for time.

The passenger business of the steamships, so far as notices are concerned, is done by or through Chinese Correspondents, or passenger agents who speak in Chinese and sign - English.

Under my direction, those three Chinamen sought any possible means by which they might obtain passage for themselves and friends - offering premiums or bounties, if necessary, and officious, for successful negotiations. They were thus employed, going & returning, four days.

Their efforts corroborated the information I derived in interviews with officers of the outgoing steamer, and the Agency.

The results of this thorough investigation were sent to Minister Young.

The expenses incurred in this investigation in March 1884 amounted to \$41.00.

viz: For my S. P. passage to Hong Kong \$3.00

" " " " " from " " \$3.00

" passage & subsistence ^{11/2} \$10.00

" my hotel board S. P. ^{11/2} \$10.00

" board & subsistence ^{11/2} \$10.00

" boat-hire, transport, postage, & sundries ^{11/2} \$41.00

The strictest economy was observed, while faithfully executing the Minister's commands.

Adding these explanations will be satisfactory.

I am, Sir,

Very Respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour
Minister

Statement
appended

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

March 31st 1884

Statement of Expenses incurred by
Charles Seymour, M. Consul at Canton,
during the Quarter ending March 31st
1884, in executing the instructions of the
Department of State and U.S. Minister
in regard to Chinese passengers
Certificates.

1884

1st Jan. Expenses in sending Interpreter after
Chinese Certificate Commissioner
and inspecting records of his Office \$ 4.00
Expenses in sending Interpreter to
Hon. Hong Kong ^{\$2.00} and board expenses
4 days ^{\$4.00} in, from Hong Kong \$ 6.00
1st March Expenses of self to from Hong Kong ^{\$5.00} \$ 6.00
" " " 4 days Hotel ^{\$4.00} meals \$ 16.00
" " " ^{\$4.00} passage 3 Chinamen ^{\$6.00} \$ 6.00
to from Hong Kong ^{expenses} \$ 1.00 each per
Expenses board 3 men for 3 days ^{\$3.00} \$ 9.00
" boat hire, transport, postage sundry ^{\$4.00} \$ 4.00
\$ 51.00

Charles Seymour
M. Consul



No. 54

Approved Jan 16/85

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

October 15 1884

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Acknowledgment of and reply to
No. 48 about first name
of Baron von Seebeck, U.S. Consular
Agent at Lurenow. SYNOPSIS.

"
" *Baron* is the first name.

No. 579

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

October 15th 1894

~~Mr. A. A. Phelps~~

Third Asst. Sec. of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to
acknowledge with surprise of 1894
from the Department of State,
inform you that "Edwin"
is the first name of the man
now called "Barrett", the American
Agent at Canton, China.

His official signature
and title, however, is "Baron
von Schenkendorff".

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully

Yours,
Chas. Leonard
Consul



Sto
No. 55

St Clair

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

October 15 - 1884

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adee,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

Trade Guilds.

SYNOPSIS.

Copied March 1887

No. 55

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

October 15th 1884.

H. V. K. H. K. H. K.

Third Asst. Sec. of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

The "Trade Guild Circular" issued by the Department of State, under date of May 18th 1884, having had careful attention, I have the honor to report that "Trade Guilds" are the strongest organizations in China, and in all Chinese Communities, at home or abroad.

The recent riots in Hong Kong, where the "Trade Guilds" aroused by what were deemed unjust penalties imposed by a British Police Magistrate

upon Chinese laborers who refused to assist in repairing French war-vessels in the dock-yards, would not permit the Chinese coolies to carry a sedan-chair, or pull a jinrikshaw, or row a boat, or assist in conveying cargoes to or from ships, or labor in the dock-yards, or perform any labor for foreigners, demonstrated the relentless severity with which those "Gilds" enforce their mandates.

Throughout China; "Trade Gilds" have long been and continue formidable organizations - extending to all branches of industry & commerce. As to apprentices, at tailor's and other trades they usually serve a term of three years. No schools exist here to promote a knowledge of any trade. I am, Sir,
 Your Obedient Servant,
 Charles Seymour
 U.S. Consul.



No. 50

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

November 19th 1884

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adee,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Cotton Manufactures.

SYNOPSIS.

*Enclosing two samples
British Cotton Drill,
sold in China as American
Cotton.*

No. 56

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

November 19th 1884

W. A. R. & Co.

Third Street, West of State,

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to hand,
you, with this, two samples of
"Black Cotton Drill", sold in China
as "Pure American Cotton", and as
"Best American Drill".

My impression that this sort
of business has been going on
for years led me to investigate
the matter carefully; and now
you have tangible proof of the fact.

These goods are sold to Chinese dealers
in Hong Kong & Canton for about \$4.00 a piece,
or \$3.50 a yard, per piece of 100 yards.

The firm, ~~mentioned in one of the samples~~,
 will be found in the Business Directory of
 Manchester, England; not as manu-
 facturers, but as "Shipping Merchants",
 although, ^{although, apparently, not English.}
 The adoption or appropriation of
 the "Dragon of China" as a trade-mark
 on British goods that are described
 as "Pure" and "Best American",
 will, doubtless, suggest the idea
 "tricks" are not monopolized by the
 "Germans".

Possibly these samples may
 be deemed worthy of a place among
 the exhibits of cotton goods at the
 Exhibition in New Orleans; to which
 China has sent many specimens
 of industrial skill.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant

Two Enclosures
 viz
 Samples Cotton Drill

Charles Seymour
 W. L. General



*Ans'd
Jue 22/85*

H. H. Blair



No. 57

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

November 24 - 1884.

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

American Ship Fees

SYNOPSIS.

*The "Act", Circulars, and
Letter, concerning Fees; and
"American Vessels".*

No. 57

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

November 24-1884.

H. A. Addee -

Third Asst. Sec. of State -

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of copies of the Act (approved June 26-1884) to remove certain burdens on the American Merchant Marine; with the Department Circular of June 30-1884; and the "Interpretation Circular" of July 30-1884.

Consular Officers were not agreed as to the full force and meaning of that Act; and their doubts were not cleared by the "Interpretation Circular".

The letter from Secretary Welles, addressed, under date of 20-September 1884, to the U.S. Consul at Hong Kong, and published

Recently in the papers of that City, is the first clear and authoritative statement that I have seen as to said Act; especially in regard to the question of treating "all vessels carrying the American Flag as American vessels, in regard to collection of fees"; although the same opinion was given by the W. Board General.

In rendering my accounts for the 1/4 year ending September 30th 1884, I informed the Fifth Auditor that while in doubt on that point, I had received (subject to proper ruling and decision), as special deposit, fees, to the amount of about Fifty Dollars, from British-built vessels carrying the U. S. Flag; which money I shall now refund, in accordance with the letter of Secretary Frelinghuysen referred to; which should be in the hands of all W. Board Officers.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant,
Charles Seymour
W. Board



11253

By Clair

No. 58



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

November 25th 1884.

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

New Orleans Exhibition

SYNOPSIS.

*Circular of July received October
20th, and Circular of August
6th received November 24th 1884.
Exhibition exhibits left Canton, October.*

No. 58

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

November 25-1884.

Wm. A. Addes

Third Asst. Sec. of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that the Circular of the Department, dated July 1884, "to the Diplomatic and Consular Officers of the United States", in regard to the New Orleans Exhibition, which is to be opened Monday, December 1st 1884, reached Canton Oct 20-1884; and the Circular from Department, dated August 6-1884, arrived here yesterday afternoon; both in excellent time to be useless.

The Chinese exhibits from Canton, and Southern China, which are creditable, under the peculiar circumstances of a warlike nature, must per "City of Tokio," which left Hong Kong October 28th 1884, and are now probably at San Francisco, en route to New Orleans.

With my twelve years of experience in the Postal Service of the United States, the present slow, expensive, and circuitous process or system of communication between Washington and Canton, which subjects all mail matter to triple postage and numerous delays, does seem to be the most illy contrived and least efficient plan that could possibly be devised.

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully,
 Your obedient Servant,
 Charles Seymour
 Consul.



St. Clair

No. 59



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Number 25-17884.

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

*Acknowledgment of Department's
Circular of July 14th 1884,
with copy of Act making
Appropriations SYNOPSIS for the
Consular and Diplomatic
Service.*

No. 59

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

November 25th 1884.

Mr. A. A. Wood.

Third Asst. Sec. of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the Circular of the Department of State, dated July 14th 1884, with copy of "Audit making appropriations for the Consular and Diplomatic Service for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1885; and for other purposes."

I am, Sir,

Very Respectfully,

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul.



No. 5460



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Number 25th 1884.

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

The U.S. Consulate at Canton

SYNOPSIS.

*(Department's Circular of Aug 21, 1884.
Sketch of the Canton Consulate.
Features of Consular business.
Commercial operations.*

No. 5960

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

November 25th 1884.

H^{on}. A. A. Adee.

Third Asst. Sec^y of State
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the Circular from the Department of State, dated August 21st 1884, calling for reports & description of the various Consular posts.

Regretting sincerely the impossibility of complying with that requisition in time to reach the Department before the opening of Congress; I gladly supply particulars which may be deemed interesting in regard to one of the oldest of U. S. Consulates.

21
If the records of the Canton Consulate are reliable, it was established A.D. 1785; and is therefore approaching its Centennial. On this point it would be gratifying to have confirmatory information from the archives of the Department.

The first ^{U.S.} Consul at Canton was Samuel Shaw, of Massachusetts, who served from 1785 to 1794, when he died on his voyage to America. He was succeeded by Captain Randee, as Vice Consul, who served until 1798; when ^{came the} son of the first Consul, Shaw, of Rhode Island; who was succeeded by Edward Livingston, of Rhode Island; and so the succession is recorded down to the present time, with frequent changes.

The obstructions placed in the Canton River a quarter of a Century ago, to defend this City against hostile fleets; and the opening of several ports on the Coast of China to foreign commerce; and the extension of ship navigation on the River Yangtze to points at which the tea-trade, which was formerly tributary to Canton, now centers; considerably diminished the foreign commerce of this Metropolis of Southern China; but still it is, and must continue to be the market and distributing point for over fifty millions of people; and is the seat and center of a large portion of their commerce.

The industry of Canton and the
 surrounding country is marvelously
 diversified; and skilled labor is employed
 in a multiplicity of channels; as
 any discerning observer will notice
 in walks through the crowded
 streets of this ancient city; the
 foreign commerce of which dates back
 to over two centuries before the Christian
 Era; when Canton was frequented
 by ships from the Indian Ocean -
 sailing to and fro with the monsoon,
 which prevails, from October to April,
 from the north east to the south west;
 and in the opposite direction during the
 remainder of the year.

The cost of living (or existing) is,
 in this country, reduced to the minimum
 standard - two dollars per month being an ordinary
 allowance for food among laboring people.

Idleness is scarcely known or tolerated among the Chinese; and mendicants are only found among the helpless and afflicted.

Silk, raw and manufactured, is one of the largest items of export from Canton. Tea of common quality goes to Europe.

Matting, China-ware (crockery), fire-crackers, fans, spices, wood-ware, are exported to all countries of the West.

Cotton and Cotton-yarn are the two large items of import into Canton.

China is so abundantly supplied with the materials for articles needed by her masses, that she is almost independent of foreigners; and there is no doubt that the first and chief wish of the average Chinaman is that foreigners would clear out and stay away.

57

The skill of Chinese artisans in copying and applying what they deem valuable of foreign production is demonstrated in numberless imitations; the most noteworthy specimens of which may be mentioned as the products of imitation skill and talent, in connection with professional instruments, as related to me by an accomplished dentist; who exhibited Chinese imitations of a very finely adjusted and beautifully polished instrument known as a swivel-drill for perforating teeth, preparatory to the filling process; the inventor of which almost indispensable dental-instrument resides in Philadelphia; and is well known throughout the world.

These Canton imitators produce and sell at half-price instruments that cannot be detected as counterfeits without being so informed by the Chinese maker.

The past year has been one of severe trial to all who are engaged in commercial pursuits in Canton, or in China; owing to the unsettled and uncertain condition of business affairs, pending war-like demonstrations, and the prospect of continued disturbances, before a solution of existing complications can be reached, with peaceful results.

Multitudes of mechanics have been thrown out of employment; and while many of those who have been deprived of the enjoyment of the fruits of their labor and skill have found their necessities, more than their patriotism, forced them into the Army; numberless thousands have become desperate and needy, without any demand for their industry.

2

And such elements, mischievous and evil-disposed sons of the Devil have found abundant materials with which to create scenes of turbulence; which have often put those entrusted with authority to their wits' ends, to devise means for maintaining public order and tranquility.

It is not strange, that, under such untoward and perplexing circumstances, mobs should be instigated, by crafty leaders, to make violent demonstrations of hatred toward foreigners; to whose province is ascribed nearly all the ills that have come upon a people who prefer the peaceful avocations of industry to war.

The Consular Corps in this red-hot city of Canton, and Province of Kwang Tung, have been required to exercise the utmost vigilance in guarding the lives and interests of foreigners residing in Southern China.

In the performance of such duty, and in meeting the demands of a trust involving lives, property, and honor, it has been my endeavor to promote the safety and welfare of all who needed protection; and to advance American interests at and about Canton.

The official returns and accounts from this Consulate show that more fees have

collected at Canton during the
past three years, than during
the preceding twelve years.

I am, Sir,

Very Respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Seymour
McMinn.



No. 61

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

December 13-1885.

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adee,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

Important Military Movement.

SYNOPSIS.

*22,000 Chinese soldiers moving
from Canton and vicinity toward
the frontier of Kwang Si, to resist the
anticipated approach of French forces, as alleged.*

No. 61

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

December 13th 1884.

Mr. A. A. Rice.

Third Asst. Sec. of State.

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you
that an important military movement
is now occurring in Southern China.

About twenty two thousand Chinese
soldiers are being conveyed, from
Canton and vicinity, toward the
frontiers of Kwangsi; to resist the
anticipated approach of French
forces from Tonquin, as is alleged.

To convey this large body of men, and
their arms, equipage, and supplies, about
two hundred and fifty cargo-boats are
employed; and for a few days

past, it has been difficult for foreign merchants to obtain cargo-boats to transport freight between Canton and sea-going vessels at Whampoa; as owners and navigators of such boats feared they would be forced into the military transport-service, and preferred to keep out of that danger.

These Chinese soldiers have been removed from Canton, and from Whampoa, and from the various forts and military stations between Canton and the mouth of the River.

Regarding the event as significant of war between France and China being soon in operation in Southern China, I acquaint you of the above facts.

I am, Sir,

Most obedient servant,

Charles Seymour
McCauley

now printed Feb. 9/85

By Clair

No. 62



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

December 15 - 1884

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adee,

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Asking leave of absence
during 1885*

SYNOPSIS.

*Leave granted in 1883, & in 1884;
but not used, owing to condition
of affairs in Canton.*

No. 62.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

December 15. 1884.

Mr. A. A. Alden.

Third Asst. Sec. of State.

Sir:

I have the honor to ask that the Department of State will be kind enough to renew the favor granted in 1883, and again in 1884, for 1885, in regard to leave of absence for sixty days, if found necessary for sanitary purposes.

During 1883 and 1884 there was no time when the condition of affairs at Canton would have justified the Consul in leaving his post, while in good health.

The Consul and Vice Consul
of the other Consulates have,
during both of those years, been
compelled, by illness, to go away
for the recovery of health; while
I have enjoyed excellent health;
but as the sea air is necessary
to cut out fever from the system
when one has the misfortune to
be afflicted with that ailment, or
general debility by reason of protracted
season of warm weather, I will
feel thankful for the privilege
of such leave, in the event of
finding it necessary for health.

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul.

ac May 8/85



No. 63



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 7-1885

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adee,

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

Account, Vouchers, and Returns.

SYNOPSIS of Enclosures in 3 Envelopes.

Quarterly Account for Rent and Miscellaneous Expenses.

Eight Vouchers in duplicate.

Nine returns.

No. 13

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 7-1885.

W. H. Atlee.

Third Asst. Sec^y of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to hand
you enclosed Quarterly Account,
for rent and miscellaneous Expenses;
with eight vouchers, in duplicate; and nine
returns, for the Quarters and year ending
December 31-1884.

I am, Sir,

Yours obedient servant,

Charles Seymour

US Consul.

Enclosures.

1 Envelope containing Account.

" " 8 Vouchers in duplicate.

" " 9 returns.

[Stal.
& file]

MAILED
NOV 10 1884

(Form No. 1231)

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*Names of Persons employed at the
United States Consulate, at Canton; and
its Consular Agencies; January 1st 1885.*

<i>Name</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Citizenship</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Date of App.</i>
<i>Charles Seymour</i>	<i>Canton</i>	<i>United States</i>	<i>Consul</i>	<i>Aug. 4, 1882</i>
<i>Edwin Hye</i>	<i>Canton</i>	<i>United States</i>	<i>Vice Consul</i>	<i>May 13, 1882</i>
<i>William Byrnes</i>	<i>Canton</i>	<i>China</i>	<i>Interpreter</i>	<i>April 1, 1882</i>
<i>Lee A. Lin</i>	<i>Canton</i>	<i>China</i>	<i>Chinese Interpreter</i>	<i>Sept. 1, 1882</i>
<i>Charles Linberg</i>	<i>Canton</i>	<i>Sweden & Norway</i>	<i>Constable</i>	<i>Sept. 1, 1882</i>
<i>Carl (Hans) von Lehnardt</i>	<i>Swatow</i>	<i>Germany</i>	<i>Consul</i>	<i>Nov. 9th 1883</i>
<i>Tung Tso Chi</i>	<i>Swatow</i>	<i>China</i>	<i>Interpreter</i>	<i>Oct. 1st 1884</i>
<i>W. H. Adams</i>	<i>Swatow</i>	<i>American</i>	<i>Interpreter</i>	<i>Oct. 1st 1884</i>
<i>W. J. Moulton</i>	<i>Canton, China</i>			<i>January 1st 1885</i>
			<i>Charles Seymour</i>	
			<i>W. J. Moulton</i>	

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*Report of Marriage of American Citizens,
and Certificate issued therefor, during
the year 1884, at Canton, China.*

On the first day of May A.D. 1884
Mr Francis Williams Damon; (aged 31 years,
by profession a Missionary, temporarily residing at
Canton, China; and a former and future resident
of Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands, the place of
his nativity; son of Rev Samuel Damon, clergyman,
a resident of Honolulu, native of Massachusetts,
and an American Citizen, a Citizen of the
United States of America;) was married
to Miss Mary Rebecca Happer, (aged
25 years, daughter of Reverend Andrew P.
Happer, D.D., a resident of Canton, China,
and native of Pennsylvania, and a Citizen
of the United States of America.)

The marriage occurred in the American
Unit Presbyterian Church, according to
the rites and ceremonies of that Church, and
the ceremonies were performed by Rev A P Happer D.D.
in the presence of Eider Nye, U.S. Vice
Consul, and of Florence Tilton and Harriet
Storer, as witnesses.

*W. C. Marshall, Canton, China
December 31st 1884
Charles Seymour
J. H. Board*



*Make the
change, and
No. 14876*



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 7th 1885

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adee,

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

Correction of the Register.

SYNOPSIS.

*Request that the name of
Yu C Chung be discontinued as
Interpreter at the Canton Consulate,
as he was dismissed several years ago.*

No. 14

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 7th 1884.

Wm. A. Adee.

Third Asst. Sec^y of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that the Register of the Department of State may be corrected, by dropping the name of Yu C. Chung, as the Interpreter at the Canton Consulate; as he was dismissed several years ago, when Consul Lincoln left Canton, in 1881.

Notwithstanding annual returns have been sent to the Department, indicating that Yu C. Chung has ceased

to be interpreted at the
Consulate, his name stands
in the Register of October
1. 1884.

He was dismissed for cause,
as appears by the records.

He was implicated in
dishonourable transactions;
such as taking the Consular
Seal from the Consulate, into
the City of Canton; and sealing
a certain gun-contract, which
was irregular and unauthorized;
and in connivance with keepers
of opium brothels in the vicinity
of reputable American residents.

The right name is "Chinn Poy Koo."

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant.

Charles Seymour
W. Consul.



S. H. Claiborne



No. 65

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

February 9 - 1885

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

*Memorials of American residents
at Canton and Swatow;
with "items" concerning Consul and Consulate.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Regarding M. Consul at
Canton; and this Consulate;
and condition of public affairs
in Southern China.*

No. 65—

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

February 9th 1885—

Hon. Sec. of State

Third Dept. No. 4 of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to hand
under you appended copies of memorials
 of American residents at Canton and
 Amoy, in regard to the M. Consul
 at Canton, with some "items" about
 this Consulate, respecting which I
 have had no part whatever, except
 an earnest endeavor to do my duty.

They are sent to inform you of the
 action and opinion of those who ought
 to know the facts. I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant
 Charles Seymour
 M. Consul.

FROM THE AMERICAN RESIDENTS AT CANTON, CHINA.

To His Excellency, The President of the United States; Washington, D. C.

SIR:

The undersigned, Citizens of the United States, residing in Canton, China, beg leave to present the following petition to Your Excellency.

Though we have no voice in the selection of our Consul, as our fellow-citizens at home have in the selection of many of those who hold office among them, we would respectfully claim a hearing with regard to our preference as to the gentleman who occupies the important office of Consul among us.

A Consul in China is something more than a mere Commercial Agent; as he is the only medium of intercourse between us and the native officials.

In such intercourse, firmness and promptitude are needed; as well as tact and suavity.

Hon Charles Seymour, the present occupant of the office in Canton, has been with us during the trying times which we have gone through, during the past two years of strained relations between the Chinese and all foreigners.

We are happy to bear testimony to the ability, promptness, and courtesy, with which he has conducted affairs; as well as to his personal qualities as a gentleman.

We would, therefore, earnestly request that Mr. Seymour be retained in his present position of United States Consul.

This is the unanimous desire of all the Citizens of the United States residing here, without reference to our political affiliations; as we comprise those whose preferences are with each of the parties in the United States.

For all which your petitioners most respectfully and humbly pray.

Signed by Messrs. RUSSELL & Co., Established in 1824.

Rev. A. P. HAPPER, D. D.—American Presbyterian Mission, since 1844; from Pennsylvania.

Rev. R. H. GRAVES, D. D.—American (South) Baptist Mission since 1854; from Maryland.

Frederic D. Bush, from New York; Nelson E. Bryant, from Massachusetts; Wallace Stebbins, from Connecticut; James W. Andrews, from Massachusetts; Joseph C. Thomson, from New York; C. A. Colman, from California; Henry V. Noyes, from Ohio; W. J. White, from New York; E. Z. Simmons, from Mississippi; A. A. Fulton, from Ohio; F. C. Hickson, from South Carolina; and all unofficial American Citizens residing in Canton, China.

CANTON, CHINA, January, 1885.

Similar request was addressed to the Secretary of State, Washington D.C. These petitions, entirely unsolicited, were presented to the Consul by Rev. Dr. Graves, to be forwarded to Washington; and elicited the following.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Dear Dr. GRAVES.

Your kind note of this date, with the memorials of the American residents in Canton, to the President of the United States, and to the Secretary of State, asking that I may be retained here as Consul, came to hand this morning; and for these tokens of friendly regard, please accept for yourself, and convey to others concerned, my thankful acknowledgment. Whether this request of the American residents in Canton shall, or shall not, be granted; I shall ever cherish remembrance of their kindness; and be comforted by a consciousness of having served them and our Government faithfully during trying and eventful times.

Very Respectfully Yours,

CHARLES SEYMOUR.

United States Consulate, Canton, January, 31st 1885.

FROM THE AMERICAN RESIDENTS AT SWATOW, CHINA.

To His Excellency, The President of the United States; Washington, D. C.

SIR:

We, the undersigned Missionaries, of the American Baptist Mission, at Swatow, China, and comprising the only Americans, resident at this Port, beg permission to petition earnestly for the retention of Hon. Charles Seymour, as Consul for Canton and Swatow. We are emboldened to do this for the following reasons.

I.—We understand that it would not be at variance with the policy of the Administration to retain, in certain cases, men who have proved themselves to be exceptionally capable, efficient, and satisfactory public officers.

II.—Mr. Seymour has proved himself to be a most competent man. He has been keenly alive to the welfare of his countrymen; and now, in the midst of a most trying crisis, is discharging the duties of his office, in a way not only to command their admiration; but to win also, in an unusual degree, the respect of the Chinese.

III.—It would be disastrous to the interests of the great Missionary Societies to lose, at such a time, the experience, the skill, and the influence, which he has acquired; and the benefits of which we, as their agents, are now reaping day by day. For which your petitioners respectfully and humbly pray.

(Signed)

W. ASHMORE, D. D. from Ohio; S. B. Partridge, from New York; Wm. Ashmore Jr. from New York; M. A. Buzzell, from Nebraska; and all American residents at Swatow.

Swatow, China, January, 1885.

ITEMS.

The United States Consulate at Canton is one of the oldest of American Consulates; having been established, and continued since, 1783.

The business of the U. S. Consulate at Canton, as expressed in fees received and reported to the United States Government, during the three years of Consul Seymour's connection with the Consulate, exceeds that of any previous ten years within the past quarter of a Century.

The Chinese authorities at Canton include the ablest men in China; because of the prevalent spirit of turbulence in Southern China; and the proximity of British, French, and Portuguese possessions; and the magnitude of commercial and monetary interests centering at Canton; which is, incomparably, the wealthiest City of the Empire; and an important source of national revenue.

Three of China's notable men have been Viceroy's of the Two Quangs (Quang-Tung and Quang Si) during Mr. Seymour's Consulship at Canton viz:—

H. E. Viceroy Tseng, the accomplished statesman and diplomatist who was entrusted by the Imperial Government of China in negotiations with the French Ambassador; and uncle of Marquis "Tseng," the Chinese Minister to Great Britain, France and Germany. H. E. the lamented Viceroy "Chang Shu Shing;" who, as the invincible leader of the Taiping Rebellion, defeated the army of "Li Hung Chang," (whose sister was captured and became the wife of the victor;) and as Viceroy, was known as one of the most popular, efficient, and liberal-minded of Chinese officials. He died in 1884. H. E. the present Viceroy "Chang Chih-tung," formerly Governor of "Shan-si;" Literary Chancellor; Minister of Instruction; &c., &c.; ranks foremost for scholarship. The Imperial Commissioner "H. E. Pang U' Lin," superintending military operations in Southern China, with Head Quarters at Canton, is the most anti-foreign of Chinese officials.

The Viceroy and Chinese authorities in Canton, through the Imperial Government of China and the American Legation, requested Consul Seymour to assist in the adjustment and settlement of the claims of all foreigners who suffered losses by the riots of 1883; and expressed a willingness to leave the entire matter in his hands; and paid the American claims many months in advance of the claims of other nationalities.

The Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America, in the Annual Report of 1884, of missionary operations at Canton and vicinity in 1883, says—"At one time the chapels were threatened by the mob, and would perhaps have been demolished but for the timely intervention of the American Consul, Hon. Charles Seymour."

The Mission Report adds—"The Mission takes this opportunity of expressing its high appreciation of the efficiency of this worthy officer of our Government in thus exerting himself without being importuned for the protecting of Mission property."

In regard to the riotous proceedings in Canton, and throughout Southern China, against all foreigners, and the persecutions against native Christians, in September 1884, the Secretary of the Board in New York wrote to the Canton Mission as follows: "I wish, first all, to ask that you will express to our Consul in Canton my hearty thanks on behalf of the Board, for his prompt action in the case of the (imprisoned and persecuted) Bannermen; and his general influence in favor of protection to our Missionaries and their converts."

The Medical Missions' Hospital at Canton, established in 1835, having ministered to the necessities of about one million of patients, enters upon its Semi-Centennial year with unprecedented resources and encouragement, notwithstanding the troublesome war complications; and at the annual meeting of its friends, January 30th 1885, the services of Consul Seymour, in obtaining contributions to the amount of about one thousand dollars from the high Chinese officials in aid of the Hospital, were appropriately acknowledged; and it is hoped this Institution may be undisturbed, even amid the contingencies of war, through this co-operation of its native and foreign friends.

Rev. Dr. Damon, of Honolulu, writing to the New York *Observer*, of June 19th 1884, about his visit to China, and referring to a social gathering at the United States Consulate in Canton, said—"The entire company numbered nearly fifty; and I have rarely met a more noble assembly of Missionaries in any part of the world.—I should be doing injustice to Mr. Seymour, our Consul, did I neglect to refer to his generous hospitality and cordial sympathy with his countrymen, and all others engaged in the Missionary work. During my sojourn in China, and most of the time in Canton, I have enjoyed a rare opportunity for cultivating the acquaintance of Missionaries—American, English and German."

Rev. W. J. White, of the American Presbyterian Missions in Southern China, in writing to the New York *Evangelist* of November 20th 1884, about the memorable events of 1884, says—"For the last year or more, it seems as if we had been living near a smouldering volcano, which might break forth upon occasion at almost any time." * * * * "A climax seemed to have been reached here about 1st September." * * * * "The news of French attacks spread over the country like wildfire." * * * * "A foreigner's life would not have been worth much on the streets of Canton on Sunday, August 31st. All the Chapels and foreign houses were threatened. The people raged like mad bulls. * * * * "Tales of misery come to hand daily." * * * * "Those who have been long here, say they have never known such a time as the present, when native Christians were made to suffer so much." * * * * "Too much can scarcely be said in praise of the American Consul here, Mr. Seymour, who has proved himself the right man in the right place in the trying times. A prompt and efficient man in a Consul's place at such a time is certainly providential."

Rev. Thomas W. Pearce, of the London Mission in Canton, referring to Consul Seymour's action; which elicited from the high Chinese authorities a special Proclamation, enforced by military power, for the protection and security of foreign missionaries of all denominations and nationalities, and native converts to Christianity, as well as foreign merchants, and other foreign residents, and their property, against injury and violence by Chinese mobs, at a critical time in 1884, when the populace were intensely excited over French hostilities at Foo-Chow and Formosa; expressed his "appreciation of the services rendered by the American Consul;" and said "they were entitled to publicity and acknowledgment."

An English Wesleyan Missionary, Rev. G. Hargreaves, in a letter to the *China Mail* of March 6th 1884, about numerous outrages in Southern China; said—"The American Consul deserves all praise for the manner in which he has sustained the privileges and rights of his countrymen. Notwithstanding the boasted prestige of England, an Englishman cannot get his affairs attended to with the same dispatch or completeness."

The Hoag Kong Evening Telegraph, of November 9th 1883, in an editorial upon the reported death of the American Consul in the Canton riots, said—"Mr. Seymour not only escaped scathless, but has since largely contributed, by the liberal and judicious measures he has advocated, to arrange the serious difficulties so suddenly and unexpectedly created between the Cantonese and the foreign residents of the City. The United States Consular service could ill afford to lose an officer so thoroughly capable of representing his country's best interests with the Chinese authorities as Mr. Seymour has, under somewhat trying circumstances, lately proved himself to be."

Mr. Cameron, of the London *Standard*; and Colonel Guilder, of the New York Herald; telegraphed from China to those papers full reports of the disturbances in Southern China; and approvingly mentioned "the judicious, firm, and conciliatory course of Consul Seymour during trying emergencies at Canton."

Mr. Shumway, of the Cleveland *Herald*, in his "Letters Round the World," after interviewing many of the foreign residents of Canton, where he sojourned nearly a month, wrote—"The good work of allaying the hostilities of the natives against foreigners has been very largely promoted by our United States Consul, Mr. Charles Seymour, who has carried a very steady hand during all the troublous times. He has accomplished twice as much for the benefit of his countrymen here, and the foreigners in general, than have all other Consuls put together." * * * * "I have no doubt whatever that the extravagant and violent measures of others would have precipitated riots more than once, but for the far-sighted precaution of Mr. Seymour."

The New York *Evening Post's* travelling correspondent, writing from Canton January 24th 1884, said—"Among the numerous discouraging signs is the treatment which missionaries receive, not alone in the provinces hereabouts, where the present war complications have unsettled everything; but even away to the North; and in fact, throughout the whole Empire. Every day the treaties with England, America, and other countries, are being violated. In Canton and the adjoining Provinces violence is done to the Mission chapels, missionaries, and native converts. I cannot forbear referring to the work which is being done by our Consul at this port, the Hon. Charles Seymour. * * * * He esteems nothing too small for his attention, if it is an infraction of treaty relations; and puts forth every effort in behalf of mobbed missionaries just as earnestly as he would in the case of the most influential American citizen. Indeed, he has acquired much reputation for his courteous attention to the wants of all, including the missionaries of the different European countries." * * * * "Altogether he has adopted a course that has at once made him the most popular foreign representative with the Chinese officials here; and at the same time so favorably impressed all candid foreigners, that in cases of real emergency they often come to him for advice and aid." * * * * "The salutary influence of such a determined course cannot be estimated."



*Give him the law
the facts.
No. 66 86*



*Ans'd
Apr 27/85*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

February 23rd 1885

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adee,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

*Information respectfully requested
about non-payment of drafts
for Motion Interpreter, and other Expenses.*

SYNOPSIS.

No. 66

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

February 23rd 1885

Mr. A. A. Alden

Third Asst. Sec. of State
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that as yet no word of ~~admission~~ or explanation has been received from any United States official in Washington, in regard to the non-payment of my draft upon the Secretary of State, for "rent and maintenance expenses," for the second quarter of 1884.

This is so much at variance with customary methods of business, that I do not know how to characterize it.

It is certainly a humiliating position in which to place a Consul, who is faithfully endeavoring to inspire the community and people around him with respect for his Nation and Government; to require him to disavow the current expenses of his Consulate; and pay over, postage, printing, Chinese Writers, &c. &c. according to the requirements; and send vouchers to the Department therefor; and then allow his Drafts to be dishonored; and not send him one word of explanation; or release from further compliance with regulations, for which no provision is made, as to payment of his Drafts made in due form.

By the last mail I received
 a letter from Hon. Wm. Lawrence,
 dated December 30th 1884 at the
 Office of the First Comptroller
 of the U.S. Treasury in Washington,
 informing me that my "draft"
 "on the Secretary of the Treasury"
 "for One hundred and twenty five"
 "Dollars, dated October 13th 1884,"
 "An account of Salary of Interpreter"
 "at the Canton Agency for the"
 "third quarter of 1884, was missing"
 "returned unpaid to its holder"
 "November 24th 1884, as no appropriation"
 "for the pay of an Interpreter at"
 "said Agency has been made for"
 "the current fiscal year" -
 said draft having been returned
 to me unpaid, and being in my possession.

In the absence of any information from the Department as to whether any other Drafts are unpaid or likely to be returned to me, either for lack of appropriations, or because the appropriations are exhausted, I am in doubt as to whether any provision has been made, or is likely to be made, for paying the necessary expenses of this Consulate and its Agencies.

For the past year or two, we have had critical times in Northern China; and I have faithfully endeavored to discharge my duties at one of the most difficult posts to which any foreign official could be assigned; and all concerned acknowledge my services.

The Canton District is the most
 turbulent portion of China; and bordering
 on the French possessions, where
 military strife has been going on for
 nearly a quarter of a century (in Fongshan),
 the mobs, riots, outbreaks, and outrages,
 against foreigners, and Americans
 engaged in missionary enterprises
 and labors, and against their native
 helpers and assistants, have been
 more frequent and severe than
 in other portions of China.
 And during the past year the
 American Commercial interests
 have greatly increased on the Chinese
 Coast, demanding assiduous attention
 on the part of consular officers.
 Swatow and vicinity, being in this
 Consular District, have received vigilant attention.

2

The British and German Vice-Consulates are ~~openly~~ ~~maintained~~ at Swatow; not because of revenue to be derived therefrom; but from the necessity of observing watchfulness at that point, where the native officials and populace are unfriendly to all foreign interests.

Through the exertions and influence of the Hon. Wm Russell Young, who went to Swatow last May, ^{about} a complicated and prolonged contest between an American citizen, Rev Dr. Wm Ashmore, of the American Baptist Mission, and the Chinese officials who encouraged trespasses upon his property and rights, an arbitration was agreed upon for the adjustment and settlement of difficulties.

8

~~During~~ proceedings growing out
of ~~that~~ contest, which resulted
in an award of four thousand
~~five hundred~~ dollars to W. Ashmore,
and his ~~surrender~~ of the property
to the Chinese authorities, the
appropriation in Congress failed,
and at a time when the United
States Consul Agent, Baron
von Seckendorff, the able and
faithful German Vice Consul,
was compelled to communicate
often with the Chinese authorities
for the protection of American interests,
while intense excitement among
the Chinese prevailed, through
the Summer and Autumn of
1884, and Winter of 1885, I have
paid the salary of the ~~Secretary~~ ~~Interpreter~~;
and hope to be reimbursed.

37

During all of this time not one word of explanation or instruction came from the Department of State; or from the Treasury Department; until the ~~corruptible~~ ~~letter~~ which was received February 9th 1885; except a copy of an Act of Congress making certain appropriations for the Bureau and Diplomatic Service; which could not have reached Boston Agency until the 4th quarter of 1884; but as that was not accompanied by any explanation or instructions as to discontinuance of any official or employee of the Consulate or its agencies; and as nothing was known of the wishes of the Department of the State; and emergencies required the

S

As a member of the Interpreter at Swatow,
in protecting American interests, I did
not feel authorized to ~~discontinue~~^{discontinue} the
existing arrangements.

Now, may I respectfully beg
that these matters may
be considered; and that the
Department will enlighten
me as to its wishes, and, if
possible, let me know whether
the abandonment of the Swatow
Agency, or depriving it of the
means of protecting American
interests, is likely to be permanent
or not; as no one desires to be
responsible for its management
at Swatow, unless it is provided
with means of upholding American
interests and American citizens.

98

I need not add that such a course as the one pursued in reference to Boston Agency will tend to deprive our Government and Countrymen of the valuable services of a talented and faithful gentleman of experience and influence in Consular duties at that post.

As to the inconveniences to which I have been subjected, I make no complaint; but it is due to the honor of our country, that such humiliation as Consular Officers in China are brought by the non-payment of their drafts, and the absence of information as to the same, is not prolonged or continued.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul.



No. 67



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

April 25th 1885

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adee,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Inclosing Quarterly Account,
for rent and miscellaneous expenses,
with Vouchers, and Returns.

SYNOPSIS.

- See* Inclosures - viz:
1. Quarterly Account.
 2. Vouchers in Envelope.
 3. *Stat* Digest of Invoice Book.
 4. *Stat* Summary of Business, Canton.
 5. *Stat* Summary of Business, Canton.
 6. *Stat* Arrivals & Departure, American Vessels.

No. 67

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

April 25 - 1885

~~Wm. A. H. Allen~~

Thos. A. S. Sec. of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to hand you
herewith Quarterly Account for rent
and miscellaneous expenses, with
Vouchers, and returns, for 1st & 1885.
It may be proper to explain that the
items for telegrams, as per Vouchers 7 & 8,
were from Baron von Schenkendorf, US Consul
Agent at Hankow to Minister Young about
important business transacted by Mr. Young,
and practically under the direction of the Legation;
and from the same Baron von Schenkendorf
to me, requiring Cypher code for first mail
to interpret a telegram in Cypher from Peking,
about France and neutral ships.

During the entire war-troubled
 between France and China many
 acts of violence occurred against
 foreign interests in Southern China;
 and no very competent and useful
 Consul Agent at Swatow, Baron
 von Beckendorff, German Consul,
 has been very faithful and patient
 in guarding American residents.

I have paid the Salary of Subscriptions
 at Swatow Agency since July 1st 1884,
 and unless some provision is made
 for continuing the Subscriptions at Swatow,
 it is probable no one can be found to
 act as Vice Consul Agent at Swatow.

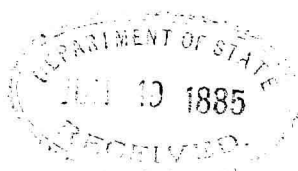
The Prefect of that District resides
 thirty miles from Swatow in the interior,
 and communication with the authorities is difficult.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant
 Charles Seymour
 Consul.



*Ans'd
June 23/85
No. 68*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.



May 5-1885

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

*Numbers of dispatches
received from the Department
of State at the Canton Consulate.*

SYNOPSIS.

No. 68

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 5 - 1885

Mr. A. A. Ades

Third Assistant Sec. of State

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to state that in carefully binding, in regular and consecutive order, and comparing numbers of dispatches received from the Department of State, since I entered upon the duties of this Consulate, I find the numbers received compare and agree with the numbers stated as forwarded to this Consulate through or from the U.S. Consulate General at Peking.

The dispatches received are numbered consecutively from No. 1 (one) to No. 29 (twenty nine) the latter bearing date October 23, 1883, acknowledging my dispatch No. 33.

There are none numbered between No. 29 and No. 41. the latter bearing date December 11th 1883, acknowledging my No. 37 and No. 38. The numbers run consecutively from No. 41 to No. 51. the latter bearing date August 11th 1884, in regard to item of \$51.00 expenses.

No dispatch numbered 52 was received. Number 53 was dated October 29, 1884, acknowledging my numbers 49 to 51. No. 54 dated January 16, 1885; No. 55, dated February 9, 1885; No. 56, dated February 14, 1885; are all that have been received.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,
 Charles Raymond
 W. Leonard

*Explain the situation,
late instructions
to them explain*

876

No. 69

United States Consulate, Canton, China.



May 19th 1885

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

*Hon. A. A. Alden,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Unpaid drafts,
and
Expenses.*

SYNOPSIS.

No. 691

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 5. 1885

Mr. Arthur

Third Dept. of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to state that about a week ago I had to refer to the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation the amount of a draft on the Secretary of the Treasury for the salary of Interpreter at the Protocol Agency \$125.00, and it was returned for non-payment.

A draft for the previous month of same amount having been returned, was also unpaid.

Today I received notice that I must refund to that State the amount of my draft on the Secretary of State \$321.18 (and interest) drawn for my account of Trust and Miscellaneous Expenses for Grand Circuit of 1884, which was duly audited by Fifth Auditor as per his letter dated January 8-1885, received February 1885.

As no dispatch whatever has been received from the Department of State in regard to these matters, or as to whether the Government shall or shall not be required to continue a disbursement system, which, by reason of lack of explanation of appropriation, or other causes, are repaid by the Government, I respectfully ask deference.

5

I respectfully ask whether it
 is reasonable or right to require
 Consular Officers to maintain
 their Consulates efficiently,
 according to the firmament
 vouchers for authorized expenses;
 and have their Drafts dishonored
 for three, six, or nine months;
 without one word of information,
 advice, instruction, or suggestion,
 or explanation; in the absence
 of which the Consul is left
 in a most humiliating, and
 uncomfortable, and unsafe
 condition, at remote posts of
 duty; where he is endeavoring
 faithfully to maintain the
 honor of his country and
 nationality, against the world,
 or in rivalry with them of other Nations.

✓
The receipt of a printed copy of an Act of Congress regarding appropriation does not supply the needed information, or give the formal direction to discontinue expenditures.

I hope that some clear information on these matters may be given by the Department, and that some assurance may be given that these unpaid drafts may be duly paid.

Respectfully referring to the Dispatch No. 11. Dated March 28, 1883, from the Department of State, in approving of my proposed reduction of expenses at the Santa Fe Agency, the Department ruled that "Even if such reduction were

13

Desirable, the change should not
 have been attempted without
 first referring the question
 to the Department"; and
 under that ruling I now
 respectfully ask whether it
 is the wish of the Department
 that any of the expenses
 for which no provision for
 payment by the Government
 has been made shall be
 discontinued

As those unpaid drafts
 cover an Interpreter, two Chinese
 Writers, Rent, postage, printing,
 &c. &c. an answer in this
 affirmation, with instructions,
 would place the Consulate
 in poor condition for business.

5/

It has been my aim to keep our nationality in honor among these people, and to do my duty faithfully in one of the most difficult parts of duty to which any foreigner could be assigned, while surrounded by turbulent natives; and prejudiced countrymen, whose interests I have tried to guard and promote; and I had little or no time or inclination to watch proceedings in Congress. We have had taxing times in Sutter Clinic; and I trust the Department will see that necessary expenses are paid.

I am, Sir, Yours truly,
 Charles Seymour
 M. Consul

207



No. 70



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Ans. Sending Copy of No. 431 to Legation at Peking
May 4, 1885
FILE 13 1885

May 23rd 1885

36-29 April 1885
FROM

As Am'd
June 21/85

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adee,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

American Citizenship.

SYNOPSIS.

Case of "Whey Ting"

alias

John Frederick Pearson.

No. 70

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 23rd 1885

~~Mr. [illegible]~~

His Excellency of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to respectfully suggest, that Consular Officers of the United States should have from the Department of State, in clear and authoritative form, for their guidance in determining questions arising as to American Citizenship in Asia, (and elsewhere), definite instructions for meeting demands of children, or sons and daughters, of American fathers and Asiatic mothers, to be registered at the U.S. Consulates, and protected by U.S. Consuls.

During the residence in Asia of foreigners from Europe and America, numerous half-breed children have been born, in and out of wedlock, as living facts will verify.

In the great majority of cases marriages are dispensed with; until, out of regard for the children, their parents, finally, in some instances, become married according to the ceremonies and forms of the Roman Catholic Church; or until separation by death or removal.

The marriage ceremony is seldom resorted to by the foreign man and native woman, until after children are born; and it is safe to say that only a small percentage of these half-breed or half-caste children are born in wedlock; and only in few cases do the parents of such children ever become married.

45

The British Consulate draw the line of recognition of sons of British fathers and Asiatic mothers, on the double test of legitimate birth, (in wedlock,) and the adoption of European habits and customs, in China; so that a son of a British father and Asiatic mother, after establishing proof of ^{his} legitimate birth; is not entitled to claim and receive the aid and protection of British Consuls in China, if he persists in wearing the costume and cue of the Chinese, and thereby pretends and purposes to be a Chinaman; and so prevents his identification as a British subject, at sight; and conforms wholly to Chinese customs and regulations.

A case occurred during the present year
 at this Consulate, respecting which I
 would be glad to have definite instructions.
 A man wearing the garb and cue of
 the Chinese; and apparently, wholly
 living in conformity with Chinese
 customs and policy; but speaking
 and writing the English language
 with the utmost facility, precision,
 and accuracy; called at the U.S. Consulate
 in Canton, and desired my assistance toward
 getting possession of some property to which
 he claimed to have a title; the validity
 of his title not being evident by his papers.
 As usual with Chinese men, he had
 several names, and alias this, and alias that;
 and among them was the name of John
 Frederick Pearson; derived, as he alleges,
 from his American father, Frederick Pearson,
 who was a well-known resident of Shanghai,
 where he resided many years, and died.

He so alleges, and there is no reason to doubt, although he did not prove, that his father lived with and was married to his Chinese mother.

The proof of their marriage, and the dates of it, his birth were not produced; but subject to the facts, I would respectfully ask to be instructed.

It is very evident that this half-breed, one of whose Chinese names is "Whay Fing" (alias John Frederick Pearson) does not consider himself amenable to American laws, customs, obligations, liabilities, or duties; and desires generally to be wholly identified with Chinese, in interests, customs, and franchises.

1/ He merely desires to employ the machinery of an American Consulate, to obtain advantage which he may not possess as a Chinaman in Chinese tribunals.

He takes refuge, and claims American citizenship under Section 1993 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, which declares-

"All children heretofore born or hereafter ^{born} out of the United States, whose fathers were or may be at the time of their birth citizens thereof, are declared to be citizens of the United States."

Under this section "Whey Sing" (alias Pearson) claims registration as an American citizen; and the aid of this Consulate in getting possession of property, respecting which he may or may not have valid title.

During several years of absence
 from China, he resided awhile
 at Bangkok, Siam, at which
 place David B. Siddle, U.S.
 Consul, gave him provisional
 protection; as will appear by
 reference to that Consul's dispatch
 No. 135, dated January 3rd 1880,
 to the Department of State;
 and the dispatch of Third Assistant
 Secretary of State, Charles Paxon,
 numbered 66, dated March 29th
 1880, apparently approving of the Consul's action.
 Does Section 1993 of the Revised
 Statutes of the United States
 apply to, and include, as American
 citizens, the children of American
 fathers and Chinese mothers,
 born in and out of wedlock in China;

12
 who practically ignore all obligations
 that rest upon native and adopted
 citizens of the United States; and
 become thoroughly identified with the
 life, habits, customs, requirements,
 privileges, civil and domestic laws
 and regulations of Chinese subjects,
 (and, or, other countries of Asia,)
 with entire abandonment or avoidance
 of every characteristic of an
 American citizen?

I am, Sir,

Very Respectfully,
 Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour
 U.S. Consul.

on
of
nomination - passed S. D. P.
A note of this should be made for entry in gross at next session
noted

U.S. CONSULATE GENERAL
JUN 3 1885
SHANGHAI

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 13 1885
RECEIVED

No. 71 L.H. Claiborne

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 27 1885

FROM
Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO
Hon. A. A. Adlee,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Subject.
Interpreter.

*Amad (G. 500)
July 16/85
Com. sent
Aug 2/85*

SYNOPSIS.

Nomination of Chin Poy Koo.

Appended remarks on Interpreters.

No. 71

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 27 1885

Mr. John A. Rice,

Third Asst. Sec. of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of dispatch numbered 58 from the Department of State, dated March 21st 1885; and to nominate an Interpreter of the Consulate, Chiam Poy Hoo, to fill vacancy caused by absence and removal of former Interpreters.

Chiam Poy Hoo was educated at Norwich (Connecticut) Academy and Yale College; and gives promise of usefulness.

Respectfully requesting attention to above remarks on Interpreter; I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour
McConnel

I. Remarks on Chinese Interpreters.

The subject of Chinese Interpreters demands some plain and unvarnished statements of facts for the consideration of the Department of State.

The European governments having Consulates in Asia generally maintain at each of their Consulates trained and educated Interpreters of the same nationality as the Consulate to which he belongs, or in which he is employed.

These Interpreters enter the Consular Service of their respective Governments in that capacity with the expectation of some day being raised to the dignity and emoluments of a Consul.

The important fact should be kept
 in mind that none, or few if any, of these
 Europeans who act as Chinese Interpreters,
 attain to such a knowledge of the
 Chinese language as to be able to
 command the use of a wide vocabulary;
 but to the end of service or life, when
 employed in translations, especially from
 English or other European languages into
 Chinese, are compelled to have the constant
 aid and assistance of a Chinaman of the
 literary class, described as a "Teacher."
 This is particularly true of translations
 into the lofty style of ~~the~~ Mandarin Chinese,
 adopted in official intercourse and correspondence.
 Even the educated European and American
 missionaries, after studying the Chinese language
 in the more simple dialects of the
 common people, for ten, twenty, thirty,

or forty years, need and use those
"Chinese teachers" to help them
over obstacles, which would be,
otherwise, insurmountable.

This should not be any matter of
surprise, when it is stated by a high
authority as Professor S. Wells Williams,
that "the total of really different"
"Characters in the Chinese language"
"sometimes by good usage does not vary"
"greatly from twenty five thousand".

Few foreigners ever achieve a
vocabulary of over five thousand words
or characters in Chinese.

Why, then, do not the European
Governments employ only Chinese
Interpreters, whose larger range
of language gives them greater
facilities for expression of ideas?

Simply because of the necessity
 of having some trustworthy and
 reliable Interpreters of the same nationality
 as the Consulate to which he is attached;
 to guard against Asiatic intrigue, desert,
 misrepresentation, venality, treachery,
 immorality, indignity, secretiveness,
 unfaithfulness, and carelessness or laziness;
 with obsequiousness to higher officials
 of China; or expectation of advantage or benefit
 from vicious acts; which could be concealed
 if native Interpreters were the only means
 of Communication ^{between} foreign and Chinese officials.
 Under the American system of relying
 wholly upon Chinese Interpreters at
 U.S. Consulates in China, U.S. Consuls
 are placed at serious disadvantage, as
 compared with Consuls of European
 Governments, who have intermediate safety.

It is not easy to fully express
the force of the principle that is brought
forth against any Chinaman
who manifests fidelity to interests
of foreigners in any degree conflicting
with those of the Chinese.

Nor, it may be coming to any one
who has not witnessed the power
of Caste in Asia, a correct impression
of the opportunities and temptations
that beset and surround those
who are invested with official
authority or influence, to exert
it for personal ends and base purposes.

Treaty stipulations and long
usage have classified foreign
and native officials, as to rank;
and the Interpreter of a Consulate
ranks with scholars and officials of importance.

It is almost impossible for a Chinese Interpreter to long resist the temptations to levy monthly tribute or stipends, and establish a revenue of ten times his salary; by permitting some crafty friend to go among the keepers of brothels and gambling dens, with threats that unless specified payments are regularly paid the Interpreter and his Consul will cause the property of those dens of vice and infamy to be confiscated by the Chinese Authorities; and their bodies tortured.

The U.S. Consulate at Canton has had, I believe, more than one such Interpreter.

In selecting an Interpreter, I have exercised the ~~ut~~ most care to avoid the possibility of any trouble of that nature; but constant vigilance will be exercised in guarding this point.

One Chinaman, who has had
 eleven years of experience in the service
 of the United States, as Interpreter
 at the Consulate in Hong Kong,
 during the days of Consular Officers,
 whose acts have already undergone
 public inspection in U.S. Courts,
 addressed me a letter, offering a
 sum of seven thousand dollars
 for his appointment as Interpreter
 at this Consulate; where he could,
 doubtless, extract a revenue ten
 times as large as his salary by foul means.

By exhibiting his Commission,
 bearing the signature of the President
 of the United States, that Interpreter
 could easily intimidate hundreds
 of Chinamen, who are engaged in
 illicit business, to contribute for safety.

After the President's Commission is once in the hands of an American official, no one can say where the mischief ends.

Take one case in point.

The Register of the Department of State, issued and corrected to October 1, 1884, carries the name of "Yu C. Cheung" as Interpreter at this Consulate; notwithstanding (I have frequently reported his name might be omitted, and he has long ago ceased to be the Interpreter.

By accumulations and indolence, "Yu C. Cheung" could buy the property of the entire Corps of foreign Consuls in China; and with the President's Commission and the Register he can be "rock of the work."

29

~~The~~ C. Cheung, was detained
in taking the U.S. Consular Seal
from the U.S. Consulate into the
City of Canton; and using it,
or permitting it to be used, as a
seal to a form-contract of a
questionable nature, while
the Consul was absent on leave,
and when the "Vice Consul in Charge"
was in ignorance as to the transaction.
That was in 1879, three days
after the departure of Consul
Quinn and the arrival of Vice
Consul Cheshire.

Many other bad things were
charged against Yu C. Cheung;
such as exacting tribute from
Chinese keepers of hotels and
gambling dens; and collecting debts of Chinese;
by virtue of his official position and intercourse
with Chinese officials.

10

The probability of his genuineness was only equalled by his marked shyness; and signatures of such men as the venerable Rev. D. H. H. H., the W. Council, and others, were found affixed to documents in the Chinese official archives, apparently; but when their genuineness was called in question, the mystery could not be solved without implicating the Interpreter, Yu C. Cheung, whose name is retained in the Register of the State Department up to October 1884.

omit

By reference to Vice Consul Cheung's dispatch N^o. 92 and 95 to the Department of State in November and December 1879, it will be seen Yu C. Cheung, the Interpreter, was suspended. The Cheung's dispatches N^o. 104 to 107 added important

By reference to Consul Lincoln's Dispatch No. 118 to the Department of State, May 1st 1880, it will be seen that C. Cheung, the suspended Interpreter, was re-instated.

The Department of State, in Dispatch No. 50 dated June 7, 1880, approved of Vice Consul Coburn's action; and in Dispatch No. 51, dated June 21, 1880, disapproved of Consul Lincoln's course; but still, after removing the Consul, retained the name of the Interpreter in the Register, notwithstanding these dispatches.

As a matter of record, it appears by Consul Lincoln's dispatch No. 122, to the Department of State, June 10th, 1880, that C. Cheung, ~~Interpreter~~, resigned.

18

Reference to the ~~indicated~~ ~~order~~
from the Department of State to the
Consul at Canton, dated August
24th 1880 ought to be conclusive proof
that the retirement of Mr. S. S. Chen
is agreeable to the Department; and if
so, his name might have been omitted
from the Register; while others have
temporarily, one after another,
performed the duties of Interpreter
more or less satisfactorily, and
received payment for their services.

^{begin} No prudent Consul would
be willing, without a fair trial of a
Chinese Interpreter, to recommend
or nominate him for that office;
and it requires considerable time
to take the exact measure of
the average Chinaman. He develops slowly

There are many reasons why the Chinese Interpreter as the United States Government in China, and more particularly in Canton China, should not be invested with Commission from the President of the United States; and I do most sincerely hope no Chinese Interpreter will ever hold a Commission at this consulate. Every Consul knows the difficulty of getting Chinese Interpreters and Writers to begin their work much before eleven o'clock in the forenoon; as their breakfast hour is about ten o'clock; and belonging, as they do, to the literary class, deem it their prerogative to move with such deliberation, and with such style, and at such hours, as to let every^{one} know they are not "labors".

With flowing poms, and fans, they
 assume ways that repudiate labor,
 to a degree that would not be
 tolerated for a moment by
 any business community in
 America or Europe; and if they
 are to be invested with Commissions
 from the President, the Consuls would
 have to climb a flag-staff to live
 on the lofty plane to which the
 Interpreter would be elevated.
 It is utterly destructive of all
 business efficiency in our Government
 to thus elevate artistic employees;
 when our Consuls have to use their
 utmost diligence to get half a day's
 work out of Interpreters and Writers.
 But when it is considered that
 base ends are served by investing Chinese

Interpretation with credentials which enable them to carry on illicit transactions with their dependant countrymen; it is to be hoped such Commissions will not be issued.

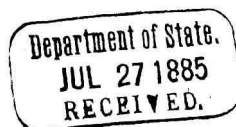
These Chinese Interpreters, having in the United States Consulates some of those checks or guards that are found in European Consulates, which have trained European Interpreters, to discern what is officially communicated between the Consulates and the Authorities, are "masters of the situation" enough, without standing upon the same footing as to official recognition by Commissions. By every consideration of sound policy, Commissions should not be issued to any Asiatic employed in any United States Consulate in China.

7
The moral obtuseness of the Chinese
is realized by the more experienced foreign
missionaries in all parts of China;
and they concur in one thing - viz:
that it is the most difficult of
all things to get the idea into
Chinese men's heads that he is a sinner.
Moral turpitude is something
that the average Chinese man
cannot comprehend.

With such materials to deal with,
on what can a President base
a Commission which opens with the
assurance "Kun ye, that reposing
"special trust and confidence in
"the abilities and integrity of" ("Ye"
"C. Cheung" - &c. &c.)??

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour
To The Third Asst. Sec. }
of State } W. C. Brown
Washington, D. C. } Canton



No. 72

W. Everett
St. Clair

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Aug 4 1885

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adee,

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

Epidemic.

SYNOPSIS.

*Particulars as to causes
and effects of the disease.
Sanitary affairs.*

No. 72

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 4th 1885

H. A. A. A. A.

Third Asst. Sec. of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you, that during the past month, Canton has experienced unusual severity of an epidemic, which makes its appearance here, with more or less virulence, every Spring; and although there is no reason to believe it has assumed, or is likely to assume, a contagious character; it is nevertheless of sufficient importance to justify a special communication on sanitary affairs.

Provisions of Chinese people yesterday, marched through several streets of the City of Canton, bearing idols from some of the temples, and exploding fire-crackers profusely, and beating songs, "for the purpose of driving away from the afflicted districts the demon of the plague", as was alleged, with strong belief in the efficacy of such means to arrest the progress of the destroyer of life and happiness.

The disease is something of the nature of, and probably is, "Asiatic Cholera"; which I have endeavored to investigate, by extended walks through the City; and diligent enquiries of natives, of missionaries, of doctors, and others who have knowledge of its ravages.

3.

The nature is generally among the poor and wretched class; and its cause seems to be as natural, as its effects are legitimate and decisive.

The duration of the illness is brief, seldom lasting more than a day, and usually results in death within from two to ten hours - often in an hour, and sometimes apparently, after a few minutes of gripping pains.

To what extent the fatality has reached is unknown; but the cases number hundreds.

Foreigners who have resided here many years are so accustomed to the annual visitation of this disease during the Spring, that they manifest no great solicitude; as it seems to be confined to natives, who disregard all sanitary precautions, and thereby suffer.

The causes are chiefly or mainly developed during the months between Winter and Summer, when the temperature changes between cool nights and warm days, and vice versa. Few houses in Southern China are ever warmed by fire.

Against these changes of temperature between the heat of mid-day and the coolness of night, little or no precaution is observed by the poor laborers, whose scant garments of filthy cotton afford no protection from chills by night air, after exposure to the sun during the working hours of the day.

After the fatigue and heat of the day, the native laborers fall asleep under the agreeable breeze from the North at night; and thus gradually but surely impair resources of vitality.

Another cause is neglect in regard to accumulation of filth, which, during the colder months of Winter, did not last foul and noxious effluvia, until the warmer months of Spring and early Summer made them, more or less, pestilential.

Another source of trouble is the brackishness of water used by the common people in food and drink, after the long period of drought, extending from four to six months, until the streams are raised by the Spring rains.

During such periods of drought the streams become too feeble to send back the salt water which is brought up into the streams by flood tides; and the wells into which the river water filters become too brackish for use.

These are the preparatory causes,
but the crowning mischief occurs
at the appearance of unripe fruit
(such as unripe peaches and lychees in spring and May)
which is eagerly devoured by masses
of people who are poorly supplied
with wholesome and nutritious food;
and whose systems have been
impaired by exposures, and difficulties,
and indiscretions, already mentioned.

As to the treatment of diseases,
it has been said by the eminent physician
and surgeon, Dr. John L. Kerr (for
over thirty years the Superintendent
of the great Medical Mission Hospital
in Canton), "The physicians of all"
"barbarous and"
"Semi-civilized Nations are entirely"
"ignorant of anatomy and physiology."
"the nature of disease is unknown - the"
"properties of medicines are, to a great extent unknown -"
"the practice of surgery is of the rudest and most primitive"
"and rude kind - the laws of hygiene are entirely disregarded"

52

The evacuation of areas where
 recently demonstrated the need of
 posts still in surgery, and medicine
 among the Chinese, and on the request
 of high officials in Britain, England
 and American Surgeons have been
 called into requisition, from Canton,
 to relief wounded officers and
 soldiers of the Chinese army,
 at the Southern frontier, and in
 Formosa. This is a concession to Western Science.

While there is no prospect
 that the disease that is now
 prevailing here will become
 contagious, it is proper that
 the facts above and previously
 stated should be communicated
 to the Department, in compliance
 with requirements respecting sanitary affairs.

Should it, however, assume
a more serious or threatening
form, I shall acquaint you
of the fact; but unless it
does so, no further statement
on the subject will be made.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant
Charles Seymour
M. Consul



ac June 31/85 H. C. Clair



No. 73

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 8th 1885

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul.

TO

Hon. A. A. Adco.

Third Assistant Secretary of State.

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

*U. S. Consular Agencies
Closed at Kium-chow
(Hoikow) and Pakhoi.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Complainer with instructions,
approved by U. S. Consul General,
with facts concerning those
Agencies; as per Department's dispatch No. 59.*

No. 77

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 8th 1885.

Wm. A. H. H. H.

Third Asst. Sec. of State.

Washington D. C.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that agreeably with instructions from the Department of State in dispatch numbered 59, under date of March 31, 1885, I have, with the approval of the Consul General of the United States at Shanghai, closed the U. S. Consular Agencies at Kieny-chow (Hoichow) and Pakhoi; as recommended in my dispatch No. 49 to the Department of State.

Before submitting the question to the U.S. Consul General, I carefully examined the matter, to be sure that existing circumstances justify the recommendation made in my dispatch No. 49, dated 13th May 1884; and found, by reference to the records of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs Report and Returns, that no American ship or vessel visited either Kiang-chow (Hoikow), or Peking, during the year 1884.

There is no American citizen residing at Kiang-chow (Hoikow), or on the Island of Hainan, of which Kiang-chow (Hoikow) is the chief or only port, and until recently no American citizen at Peking, and now only two, both in the Chinese Customs Service.

On May 20th 1885, I addressed
Messrs. Russell and Company,
sole owners and representatives
nearly all of the American
steamships employed in the
Chinese Coast-trade, stating-

"I will feel obliged by any"
"information as to the prospect"
"or probability of American ships"
"(especially of Messrs. Russell & Co's"
"fleet) frequenting the port of"
"Pakhoi, and the port of"
"Kuing-tchow (Hoichow)."

Messrs. Russell and Company
replied, under date of Hong Kong
May 21st 1885, - "We regret"
"that at present there is no probability"
"of any of our steamers calling at Pakhoi"
"or Hoichow; nor do we know of any American"
"steamships likely to go to either of these ports."

In submitting these facts to the
 Consul General of the United States
 at Shanghai, in Dispatch No. 175,
 dated May 3rd 1885, I stated -
 "That makes a small exhibit"
 "of American interests at those ports."
 "Under these circumstances there"
 "seems to be no more need of keeping"
 "United States Consular Agencies at"
 "Kwang-chow (Hoichow) and Pakhoi,"
 "than at any of thousands of places"
 "where there are no American"
 "citizens, interests, ships, and"
 "Commerce; and if your approval"
 "is granted, I shall proceed to execute"
 "the instructions of the Department"
 "to close those offices."

In dispatch numbered 109, dated
 May 29-1885, the U.S. Consul General said-

"Having considered the reasons advanced"
 "by you why these agencies should be"
 "closed, my approval is granted."

On June 3rd 1885, the date on which
 the U.S. Consul General's approval was
 received, I notified the British Consul,
 acting as U.S. Consular Agents, at Kiang-
 Chow (Hoikow), and Pakhoi, as
 per copies of dispatches hereto
 appended; thanking them for their
 kindness; and requesting them to
 pack, and send to this Consulate,
 the archives and property appertaining
 to those Agencies.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,
 Charles Seymour
 U.S. Consul.

(Copy) A

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 3rd 1885.

Clement J. R. Allen, Esquire,

H. B. M.'s Consul, Pankhoi.

Sir:

I have the honor to tender to you my sincere thanks for your kindness in consenting to act as U. S. Consular Agent at Pankhoi; but I am instructed by the Department of State of the United States to close the U. S. Consular Agency at Pankhoi; and ~~that~~ the U. S. Consul General approves of this course. Be kind enough to pack the archives, records, stationery, seals, and property of the U. S. Consular Agency at Pankhoi, in a box; and send the same to me, with a memorandum of any expense incurred in so doing, or for postage &c. Are there any publications sent to the U. S. Consular Agent or Agency at Pankhoi?

Thanking you again for your great kindness,

I am, Sir, Your obedient Servant,

(signed) Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul.

(Copy) $\frac{2}{A}$

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 3rd 1885.

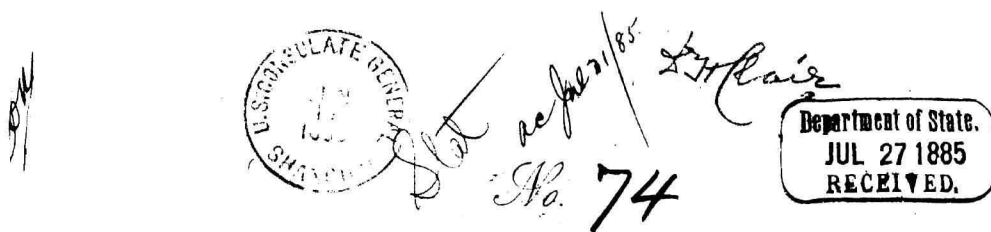
T. Watters, Esquire, U. S. Consul
Hing Chow (Hoikow).

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your dispatch of May 23, 1885; and to express sincere thanks for your kindness, in consenting to act as U. S. Consular Agent at Hing Chow (Hoikow), and with the approval of your Legation. The Department of State of the United States has instructed me to close the United States Consular Agency at Hing Chow (Hoikow); and the U. S. Consul General approves of this course. Be kind enough to send to me the archives, stationery, records, books, seals, and property of the U. S. Consular Agency at Hing Chow, packed in a box; and advise me of contents of the box or boxes, date of shipment, with Bill of lading; and a memorandum of any expense incurred in so doing, and postage, &c. Are any publications sent to the U. S. Consular Agent or to the Agency? Thanking you again for your kindness.

I am, Sir, Your obedient Servant,

signed, Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul.



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Aug 13th 1885

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul.

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adee,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Commercial information
from Canton and Southern China.*

SYNOPSIS.

(Duplicate files for publication)

No. 74.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 13th 1895

Mr. [illegible]

Belmont St. of [illegible]

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to lay
before you the following items of
Commercial information.

Commerce and War.

Commerce in Southern China has
been maintained during the past two
years under difficulties growing out of
disturbed relations between China and France.

Canton is the financial and commercial
center of Southern China; and being the most
wealthy city in the Chinese Empire, it has
been intimately identified with the military
operations
of a defensive nature that were deemed

1/

necessary by the Authorities to guard against invasion by water or land.

Not only have the Authorities at Canton adopted extensive and expensive measures to secure this ancient and opulent Metropolis of Southern China against the approach of any hostile fleet of ships, by an elaborate system of fortifications, barriers, obstructions and torpedoes, between Canton and the Sea; but from Canton have been sent the military forces, equipments, and supplies, to guard the Southern frontier against invasion via Tonquin.

At Canton have centered the numerous regiments of soldiers from northern, central and southern China, for organization, distribution, and assignment, according to exigencies and developments.

Within the past two years telegraphic communication, between Canton and various parts of the Chinese Empire, and with the Southern frontier, have been established.

Canton has thus been closely alive to the occurrences, contingencies, and effects of war.

Capital being timid amid uncertainties, men of prudence and wealth, at the outset of warlike operations, vigorously aimed to avoid the risks and hazards of war, by curtailing business operations; by withdrawing from liabilities and exposures to losses; and by seeking safety for their property, from the two fold danger of disaster in extended commercial operations, and exactions growing out of the pecuniary necessities of the Authorities.

4/ ~~unhappily~~, then troubles seem to be nearly at an end; and with the restoration of peace, it is hoped prosperity will return to the various branches of industry; and that all departments of Commerce will soon be in operation.

It is to be feared, however, that the expenses incurred in defensive measures will continue for awhile to encumber Commerce with burdens; which, indirectly, but none the less severely, affect many foreign interests; as is the case in regard to imposition of a heavy lee kin tax, in addition to the ordinary duty, on the important item of American Commodities - Kerosene; and similarly in regard to other articles.

(Foreign)

Necessity of Railways realized in China.

Foreign and domestic nations have
 obtained enormous profit, ultimately,
 at their industrial benefit from the
 success, development, and
 results of the recent war; which
 has forcibly demonstrated and practically
 illustrated the policy or necessity of
 establishing a system of rapid and
 efficient communication, between
 important points in the interior of
 China, by means of railways;
 to prevent a repetition of the
 trouble and humiliation experienced
 by the Chinese, in having supplies
 of food for their armies cut off by the
 interruption of Coast-Commerce; and
 by declarations, by a foe, as to
 articles or commodities "contraband
 of War".

(The)

The time has arrived for a successful advocacy of railways throughout this vast Empire of China; and if the subject is judiciously presented and advocated, there is no reason why, with superior training and experience in and for the construction of these great highways of commerce, economically, efficiently, and rapidly, Americans may not take and keep or maintain the lead in this enterprise; for which the American railway system has developed superior talent and facility; and especially as the Government of the United States of America is almost the only one of the great Powers of the West which seeks no territorial or colonial acquisitions, in Asia, or elsewhere.

The security and integrity of the Empire, which would be greatly promoted by a well-devised railway system, not only as means of defense against foreign foes, but also in respect to facilities which would enable the authorities to promptly suppress local or internal disturbances that so frequently occur, would, necessarily, enter largely into consideration, before cordial adoption of any railway system could be achieved in Conservative China; but the long-deferred time has evidently come for inaugurating the progressive, civilizing, and beneficent railway system, which shall open up the interior of China to Commerce.

I respectfully commend this subject to the attention of our Government, and of enterprising Americans.

Measures are in progress among European Capitalists to take the initiative, by offering loans of money to be expended in railways in China.

This enterprise can be more successfully carried on by Americans, whose experience in trans-Continental railways, whose superior implements and facilities for constructing railways, and whose favorable communications with China, give them obvious advantages.

The pacific policy of the Government of the United States should give its citizens favor and preference with the Chinese Government, in carrying forward an enterprise of this nature, in which foreigners connected therewith might and would have vested rights.

5

The scheme embraces and includes so many important interests in the event of actual operations, that it seems to be worthy of careful attention; for it opens up not only a large field for the employment of the engineering talent, financial resources, constructing implements, bridge materials, Engines, rolling stock, and supplies of various kinds; but, apart from the national prestige and influence to be derived from a successful prosecution of the work, the material benefits to be gained are incalculable, while the range of American commerce is sure to be enlarged thereby in the East.

✓

If, under the auspices of our Government, any American citizens see fit to have the question fairly tested, the present is a favorable time to commence negotiations, on some well-defined plan which shall combine two essential points to wit: the consolidation of the Empire, which would be chief consideration in granting the franchise, or consenting to any railway system; and the judicious location of railways, with reference to remuneration instruments, to attract capital. Having thus presented for consideration a matter of greater importance than any other that can be mentioned, I will proceed with trade statistics, and suggestions of commercial significance.

A.D. 1884 a good year in China. //

The year 1884 was remarkable for the abundant harvests in Southern China; as well as throughout the Chinese Empire; and this fact doubtless gave tone and stability to business, as represented in the Chinese trade returns cleared, at the several ports, through and by the Imperial Maritime Customs, in a year when warlike operations seemed to be serious obstacles to commerce. So it may be inferred that if peace, instead of war, had prevailed, the past year would have been one of unprecedented prosperity in China. Under favorable circumstances, with neither drouth or floods, two or three crops were raised during a twelve-month in parts of China.

12/

Agriculture in Southern China.

In the Province of Kwang Tung, and in the vicinity of Canton, the conditions are favorable for agriculture and horticulture, when the seasons are regular, and when the numerous water-ways are not too much swollen by excessive rains, and when the soil is not baked by prolonged seasons of drought, as the temperature, for several years past in the cool months of December, January, and February, has not gone below 38° above Zero, Fahrenheit; and scarcely gets down to the "Freezing Point" (32°) once in ten years. Ice has been seen for a short time at day break in Winter; but it vanishes after a few minutes exposure to the sun.

Thus it will be seen the absence of frost at and about Canton, with its abundant means of irrigation, favors vegetable

43

And the mildness of climate also favors the growth of mulberry trees, and silk-culture, to a degree of excellence that is unknown in the Central and Northern Provinces of China, or Japan; although silk-culture is carried on throughout the greater portion of both Empires.

In realizing three crops per annum from the same soil in Southern China, cultivators adapt their crops to the seasons, and fertilize the land with liquid manure, and surround the plots by raised earthen barriers or narrow dikes, to keep the fertilizing properties from being washed away, so that the soil shall be nourished, and absorb the full strength of fertilizers, and be productive of the best possible results. Gardeners would be a more proper term than farmers, as small tracts of land are cultivated by tillers of the soil.

14

The year being divided in "moons" instead of "months" in China, an intercalary month is thrown in about once in four years to even matters up; but the New Year begins about the first of February, in ordinary years - sometimes a week or ten days earlier or later than that date. The rainy season begins usually with the second moon, or about first of March, and continues a couple of months, with copious and frequent showers for two months more.

The ground is prepared for the first crop of rice in the first moon, or February, or at the latest in the second moon, or March; and is usually ready to be harvested in May, or by first of June; when the second crop of rice is put in; and as it is in rows, and not "broadcast" or scattering, beans, corn, and other crops are cultivated, & the same time, mature and ripen after the second rice harvest.

15

About eight of the thirteen "moons" have been consumed in cultivating and raising and harvesting the two crops of rice; and the ground becoming too dry for another crop of rice, the remaining third of the year, or last four or five of the thirteen "moons" of the year, will be devoted to crops of vegetables, including squashes, pumpkins, sweet potatoes, marrows, &c. &c., which ripen in the eleventh and twelfth moons of the year, in good time for preparation of the ground for the first crop of rice of the succeeding year.

Thus, by nourishing the soil, and keeping its fertility up to the fullest capacity of productiveness; and by vigilant and thorough cultivation; these Chinese gardeners (small farmers) achieve marvelous results in agriculture.

16

The implements of agriculture, or farming utensils, little or no improvements or progress have been noticed by the observer. The wide, and heavy, and clumsy hoe, used in breaking and welling the land, preparatory to seeding and rains or irrigation, seems to be unnecessarily cumbersome; but, still, the work is thoroughly performed, and results justify, in this case, the means.

When the ground is flooded and thus softened, a rude and mean sort of a plow is drawn across the field, to make trenches for rows of rice, or other crops. There are no horses or draft cattle employed in farm work. The plow or harrow is pulled by one ox, with a hump on his shoulders, and little or no hair on his slate colored hide.

17

Swine seem to be numerous in Southern China. The ground is too soft and wet, for the first half of the year; for cattle grazing; and can be more advantageously employed in the rice already mentioned. In some hilly districts a few cows are raised; but they are sold for beef, while the oxen, if of good size, are used to pull the plow and harrow.

There are no flocks of sheep are seen South of the Yangtze Valley, or Central China.

The swine of Southern China are the best of animal production; and are like the best breeds of swine raised in America - small bones, easily fattened, and yield large proportion of flesh. Pork is the third largest item of food among Chinese - rice and fish being first and second, always excepting vegetables, which are dished up in many forms, from garages to soups. Every city and village has fish ponds and duckeries.

18

Food and Subsistence.

As the average cost or expense of feeding an adult laborer, house and farm servants, and common artisans; shop-keepers, clerks, and ordinary Chinamen, is about one dollar and eighty cents per month; it is safe to say fish and fowl are not within their reach every meal or every day - rice being the chief food throughout Eastern and Central Asia. At the North and Northwest, where large flocks of sheep are abundant, mutton is largely consumed; but in Southern China, it is only found on the tables of Europeans and foreigners, and comfortable Chinamen, who patronize dealers in sheep brought by steamships from the North. Among the great bulk of Chinese, there is an aversion to eating hog, because of the utility of Opium in cultivating the soil. In some Districts the slaughter of cattle is forbidden for that reason.

Absence of reliable data about Commerce.

In ascertaining reliable data on which to compute the total value of Commerce at any Chinese port, one's chief reliance is upon the carefully tabulated returns of the Imperial Maritime Customs, wholly operated by foreign officials, and embracing reports only of imports and exports per foreign vessels, and steamers; while all imports and exports per native vessels are omitted, as the import and export duties on all merchandise or commodities per native craft are collected by contractors who buy that franchise by paying a round sum, without being compelled to let any one know whether it was, or was not, a profitable speculation or transaction for the Chinese Syndicates of the several Customs Districts.

20

Consequently the extent of traffic for native vessels is unknown, except to those who are interested in keeping it secret.

Between Canton and Hong Kong there are hundreds of native junks engaged in transportation; and their total tonnage would be about 15,000 tons for every hundred junks. I would not put the total number below 200, or over 400. If we say 300 junks, there would be a tonnage of about 45,000; of whose business there is positively no record.

Hong Kong being a "free-port," no Custom House statistics are there found.

Another unreliable feature in these Imperial Customs Statistics; which give in treatment of all imports and exports per their Steamers between Hong Kong and Canton as from or to a British port, notwithstanding the ports of other Nations sent or received the merchandise.

That if an American, German,
 or French ship discharges a cargo
 of merchandise at Hong Kong, and it
 is conveyed by the River Steamer to Canton,
 the Canton Customs return will show that
 properly; as an importation from Great Britain;
 and in like manner, if and when merchandise
 is sent per River Steamer to Hong Kong to
 be transferred to an American, German, or
 French steamer, it is placed in the
 Customs Return as exports to Great Britain;
 notwithstanding it may be conveyed by actual
 services as exports to other countries.

Still, there appears to be no other
 data available except the Returns
 and Reports of the Imperial Maritime
 Customs; and as far as they go,
 must be received as accurate, with the
 exception just mentioned as to nationality of
 imports and exports.

22

Commerce of Quang Tung Exceeds one fifth
of the Commerce of the Chinese Empire.

By reference to these official returns the total value of imports and exports for 1883 and 1884 were about \$350,000,000 each year.

In 1883 the foreign imports were about \$122,000,000; and in 1884 about \$120,000,000.

In 1883 the foreign exports were about \$105,000,000; and in 1884 they were about \$101,000,000.

The value of imports from native ports in 1884 amounted to about \$73,000,000; and

the value of exports to native ports was \$60,500,000.

The total value of imports and exports reported by the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs for the nineteen ports where these Custom Houses are established amounted in the year 1884, as above stated, to about \$350,000,000; of which about \$75,000,000 were reported at the four Custom Houses of Canton, Swatow, Pakhoi, and Kiating Chow, in Quang Tung Province.

25

Assuming, as a basis of estimate, that the large fleet of junks engaged in the carrying trade between Canton and Hong Kong and other sea-ports, make a round trip of less than two hundred miles once a month; and, for the space of two months, suspend business for holidays, rest, and lack of traffic, there would be ten round trips per year; which would make the annual tonnage of that fleet of junks not far from 500,000 tons. This would be a moderate allowance; as the tides & current will carry a junk from Canton to Hong Kong in two days easily; and the return trip could be made in from three to five days. That would leave over ten days at each end of this short route for receiving and discharging cargo.

This tonnage (500,000 tons) is
 equivalent to 1,000,000,000 pounds
 each way, or 2,000,000,000 pounds in all.
 At the low valuation of two and a
 half cents per pound, the junk cargo
 would amount to \$50,000,000;
 which is probably too small an estimate.
 It would be safer to say that it
 is about the same value as the
 cargo reported by the Imperial Customs
 for steamships and foreign vessels.
 = \$75,000,000; and adding this
 as the basis of estimate, we arrive
 at the conclusion that the total
 import and export trade of the
 Province of Kwang Tung alone
 is about \$150,000,000 per annum,
 besides the junk traffic to and
 from the three ports of Swatow,
 Pakhoi, and Kuing Chow, in Kwang Tung Province.

C 21

These figures clearly indicate the importance of this Southern Province of Guang Tung in respect to Commerce.

It should be known, too, that Canton Capital moves the great tea crop which goes to Hankow on the River Yangtze for annual market in May, from the rich tea district, 300 miles north of Canton, and 200 miles south of the Yangtze; and this vast tea trade would be restored to Canton by the creation of railway communication. In former times it was brought to Canton; and the recovery of that important trade would be one of the considerations that would influence the business elements of this wealthy Metropolis to favor the introduction of railways.

1/
A false system in regard to Canton Commerce ^{leading to} _{ruin}

It is, indeed, a mystery, and a matter of surprise, that a false and fictitious impression regarding the commerce of Canton should be kept up in America, by the action of the United States Government, in persisting, or permitting, for many years past, a system which is utterly discarded and forbidden in respect to commerce from or with other ports and countries.

The U.S. Government does not permit the certification of invoices at Consulates in Great Britain for merchandise from other ^{European} countries destined to the United States, although London and Liverpool may be the ports from which such merchandise may ultimately enter ships going to the United States of America.

(2)

But, notwithstanding, Canton sends large quantities of Chinese products and manufactures to the United States of America, by the fleet of seven steamships with an aggregate of over 30,000 tons capacity, plying regularly between Hong Kong and San Francisco; and by regular steamships between Hong Kong and New York, via Suez Canal; and by sailing vessels to California and Oregon direct, and to New York via Cape of Good Hope; probably not one fifth of this merchandise of Chinese production from Canton is embroved in tinies certified at the U.S. Consulate in Canton; but the bulk of it is certified to at Hong Kong, and is thus treated as "British Commerce," contrary to facts and regulations.

87

Consuls are powerless to enforce
Circulars from the State and Treasury
Departments on this subject, so
long as the United States
Custom Houses permit the
merchandise to enter on invoice,
certified at Consulates that are
not in the Country where the
goods were produced, marketed,
and prepared for exportation to the
United States. The Treasury Department can apply the
remedy. Although Chinese carrying on
an extensive traffic between Canton
and the United States; there is not
on record at the U.S. Consulate in
Canton any case of an invoice
of merchandise from, for, or to
a Chinaman, having been certified
at the U.S. Consulate. This is all wrong;
and the remedy should come through U.S. Custom House

Prominent Features of Imports.

(29)

-Opium heads the list of Chinese imports - amounting in 1883 to \$97,500,000, and in 1884 to \$39,250,000; of which last mentioned imports, Canton, Swatow, Pakhoi and Hong Kong, in this Province of Kwang Tung, received in 1884 about \$5,300,000; as reported through Imperial Maritime Customs; but these figures do not fully represent the receipts of Opium; which is smuggled extensively to evade the duty and custom tax, amounting to about one dollar per pound.

Cotton goods stand second in value among the importations of China, amounting (exclusive of raw cotton) to about \$33,000,000 in 1883; and \$33,000,000 in 1884.

Raw Cotton imports were \$3,000,000 in 1883; and about \$2,750,000 in 1884.

2

Of the entire importation of
cotton goods into China in 1884,
about \$22,000,000, or two thirds,
consisted of grey and white shirtings,
drills, jeans, trills, sheetings,
and small quantities of prints,
turkey reds, cambrics, muslins, &c.
about \$3,000,000 unclassified;
and about \$8,500,000 in Cotton
Yarn and thread.

The province of Kwang Tung,
at the four Imperial Custom Houses
in Canton, Swatow, Ningbo and
Pekhai, received of the above imports
of ^{foreign} cotton goods, in 1884, \$7,500,000;
of which \$5,276,000 consisted of
Cotton yarn to be manufactured into cloth.
Of the total imports of \$2,750,000 of
Raw cotton into China in 1884,
the Province of Kwang Tung received \$1,976,300.
These significant facts point to manufacturing in

Metals stand third on the list
 of imports into China, amounting
 in 1884 to about \$6,000,000,
 which was nearly \$1,000,000 less
 than in 1883. One fourth of the
 total of metal imports consisted
 of tin-plates - then followed
 iron nail-rod, iron-ware, lead,
 iron-bar, hardware, copper-sheet,
 copper-bar and rod, and miscellaneous sundries.
 The Prince of Euiyong received about
 \$600,000, or one tenth of the total metal imports.
 Of woollen or woven goods which stand
 fourth on list of imports into China,
 amounting in 1884 to \$5,500,000; over
 one fourth consisted of Camlets; over
 one fourth were lustings and long-ells;
 and the remainder of blankets, lustres,
 cloth, Spanish stripes, and miscellaneous sundries.

32)

The Province of Kwang Tung received \$1,117,000 of these Woollen imports.

Coal was imported into China in 1884 to the extent of 263,378 tons, valued at about \$2,500,000; of which about 16,319 tons reached the Province of Kwang Tung, the most of it being at Swatow.

Kerosene Oil, from the United States, has increased at nearly all ports in China, according to the Imperial Customs Returns.

At Foo Chow the Authorities forbade the use of Kerosene; but at nearly all points it seems to be growing in public favor, and coming into more general use than formerly.

26

The Imperial Maritime Customs Returns do not include all the Kerosene imported into China.

The greater portion of Kerosene arriving at Canton, is brought from Hong Kong in native junks, and the duties are paid to the Contractor who bought the Kerosene monopoly from the Authorities, who imposed a local tax of forty cents per case in addition to the duty, in 1882; without notifying the foreign Consulates of the additional burden on this important item of Commerce. Kerosene does not appear among the list of imports in Imperial Customs Reports for Canton; but in their Report of Trade and Commerce for China, the increase is stated, from \$750,000 in 1881, to \$1,250,000 in 1884. These figures represent 5,000,000 gallons of Kerosene imported in 1884.

24
The ports of Swatow, Ning-shan,
and Peking, in this Province of
Lung King received in 1884 about
200,000 gallons valued at 25¢ per
gallon = \$50,000; and from the
quantities that have been seen
on junks arriving in port, and
from general information derived
from business sources, I should
estimate the quantity received
at Canton to be four times as
much as at all of the other three
ports of this Province - thus making
a total of 1,000,000 gallons
of the value of \$250,000, for the
Province of Lung King.

With the cessation of war,
efforts should be made
to induce the Imperial Government to end
the mischief of severe local taxation
upon this beneficent American commodity.

53

Financing, three fourths of which
 was American, and the remainder
 from Korea and Japan, was imported
 into China, in 1884, to the value
 of \$900,000, which was \$200,000
 less than the importation in 1883;
 and of the financing imported in 1884,
 the Province of Kwang Tung took
 \$255,000; or nearly two fifths being
 \$470,000 worth of native financing from
 within China, which is prepared to finance financing.
 This is the most celebrated and popular
 nostrum in China, although it is regarded
 of little or no value in America or European
 Pharmacopoeia. The prices of financing
 range from one dollar per pound to
 its weight in silver - two to three dollars
 per pound being the ordinary price
 of a good quality of refined American.

62

Among the foreign imports into China in 1884 were about products of the sea, to the value of \$4,000,000, the most of which are commodities little known in America & Europe, and chiefly used by Chinese epicureans in dishes that enter into the menu of wealthy mandarins and merchants on festive occasions.

Of the numerous smaller items of imports from foreign countries are mentioned to the value of over \$1,000,000; of which this Province of Kwang Tung took \$200,000.

Of dyes, and dye-stuffs, and colors, Kwang Tung Province imported in 1884 the value of \$150,000.

Kwang Tung Province received of American flour in 1884 \$133,500; and of American wheat \$125,000.

~~The reliable data is not available~~
 can be obtained in regard to the
 importation of cheese, butter,
 cheese, condensed milk, canned
 fish, condensed meats, canned fruit,
~~condensed milk, condensed tomatoes, syrup,~~
 clocks, lamps, tools, cutlery,
 patent medicines, perfumeries,
 and other commodities, which are
 brought from the United States to
 Canton, and all Chinese ports;
 but they reach an aggregate
 that is considerable, and might
 be increased with proper attention.
 Butter comes from France,
 Denmark, Italy, Australia,
 and New Zealand; but it is seldom
 one sees in Canton American butter,
 which might be easily introduced if packed
 according to the demands of the climate in
 small glass jars or tin cans of one pound each.

8

Prominent Features of Exports.

The relation of Huang Yang Pensee to the Chinese Empire in regard to Exports is also of commanding importance.

The Exports of China to foreign countries in 1883 was about \$105,250,000; and in 1884 about \$100,750,000; which was nearly the same as in 1882.

Of the Exports in 1884, nearly one third was Silk; and about four tenths, ^{or 42 percent,} was Tea; and the remaining fourth consisted of sugar, straw-braid, paper, matting, clothing, China-ware, fire-crackers, hides, skins, glass bangles, nut-galls, rhubarb, hair, wool, pines, fruit, tobacco, hemp, musk, metal manufactures, bamboo-ware, wooden-ware, &c. &c. &c., in their relative order as named.

of the total fish exports of Britain,
the value alone of the fish exports is
estimated at £12,000,000 in value.
(£12,000,000)

34

about \$5,500,000 of them still
 exports from Canton was low
 and unmanufactured little;
 and \$7,500,000 manufactured.
 Although this large item
 of silk exports was produced
 in the immediate vicinity of
 Canton, marketed in Canton,
 prepared for shipment at
 Canton and sent to America
 and various countries of Europe,
 from Canton, the bulk of it
 stands in official records as
 exports to Great Britain, because
 the good had to go to Hong Kong
 per river steamers for transfer
 to ocean steamships which
 are unable to ascend the
 Canton River to Canton.

40

This falsification and delusion
 record is kept up by the old
 Government, which permits these
 Chinese or Canton reports
 to be entered at American
 Custom Houses on invoices
 certified at a Consulate
 in a British port ^{on a barren island}, which
 produces nothing, manufactures
 nothing, buys nothing, and
 sells nothing, of the nature
 of this merchandise; but is
 simply an entre-pot.

Nearly all of the exports of Opium
 from China are from this Province
 of Kwang Tung, amounting in
 value to about \$10,000,000
 in 1884, mostly from Swatow,
 and generally shipped to Hong Kong

The following are among the goods of Canton in 1884.

Tea (principally to London) \$4,000,000
 Firebricks (" " ") \$22,000
 Mattings (" " ") \$45,000
 Glass bangles, ornaments, beads (to India) \$360,000
 Blankets, silk, shawls (" ") \$340,000
 Clothing, mostly silk (to China and Amoy) \$505,000
 Shoes (" " ") \$95,000
 Stockings (" " ") \$36,000
 Medicines (" " ") \$200,000
 Opium (" " ") \$60,000
 Resins and lacquerware \$270,000
 Dried Fruits (lychees &c) \$150,000
 Tobacco (mostly prepared) \$285,000
 Grass Cloth \$195,000
 Ladders \$138,000
 Bamboo Canes \$135,000
 Furniture and Wooden ware \$43,000

42

Lacquered	\$ 50.000
Mirrors	\$ 50.000
Incense	\$ 24.000
China ware	\$ 105.000
Gold ware and gold thread	\$ 105.000
Silver ware	\$ 65.000
Jewelry	\$ 25.000
Trunk	\$ 20.000
Cassia	\$ 94.000
Tea	\$ 85.000
White & Yellow silk	\$ 125.000
Horn & Horn ware	\$ 72.000
Indigo	\$ 25.000
White wax	\$ 17.000
Antimony	\$ 16.000
Human hair (81.000 lbs)	\$ 23.000
Native Cloth (for Chinamen)	\$ 70.000
Paper	\$ 220.000
Pictures on rice paper	\$ 17.000
Flowers, blossoms, seeds, &c, &c, &c	\$ 32.000
&c &c &c &c &c	

43

Of the total revenue reported by the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs at all of the ports in China in 1884, amounting to about \$20,000,000, this Province of Kwang Tung gave about \$3,000,000, or $\frac{1}{7}$ the total, while the revenue derived from the native junk traffic was probably as large in this Province of Kwang Tung as at all other ports outside of this Province.

The revenue at Canton, Swatow, Hong Kong for 1884, of 1885 indicates increase.

Shipping.

The total tonnage of foreign shipping entered and cleared at Canton in 1884 was 2,020,335; including that of the daily steamers between Canton and Hong Kong^{dellacas}. Of that total tonnage, only 20,266 tons were of sailing vessels, — numbering 13, of which 7 were British, and 6 German.

48

The steamers entered and cleared numbered 1,000 each, of which 724 were British, 190 were ships that passed under the American flag about the end of July, 1884; (Eighty five) 85 German, and one Danish
Buoys, Beacons, Lights, and Light Houses,

As only a limited number of Copies of the Chinese system and Code of Buoys, Beacons, Lights, and Light Houses Reports is published; and as it is of the utmost importance to the Warships of the United States Government, and all American shipping interests, ^{that they} should have correct information for the safe navigation along the Chinese Coast, and to and from Chinese ports; An Official Copy of the Report, with Charts, for 1885, is herewith sent for publicity in America

A

Removal of Obstructions.

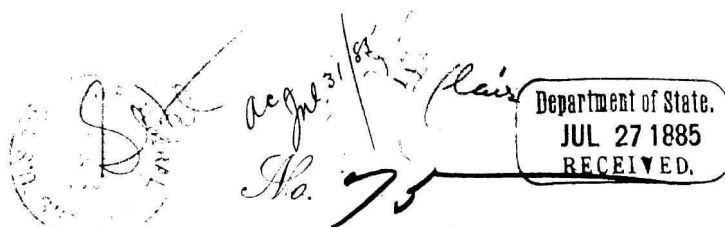
During the Japanese operations in Southern China in 1884 and 1885, the Canton River has been seriously injured for navigation by obstructions, some of which can, and doubtless, will be speedily removed, after peace shall have been fully secured, as apparently, now nearly achieved; while others of these obstructions are of such a formidable character as to require time and money for their removal; and it is very doubtful if the navigation of this superb natural highway of Commerce will ever again be as good as it was before the channel was interfered with, and the navigation obstructed by bridges, piers, cribs of stone, &c. &c.

40/

Until the rapids are removed, and the obstructions are taken away, navigators will have to exercise great care in navigating the Canton River. The same deplorable injury has been done to other rivers and harbors in China, with similar results.

I respectfully suggest that the combined influence of all foreign governments represented by Legations at Peking, and interested in facilitating international Commerce, will be needed, and should be exercised, in inducing the Imperial Government of China to adopt vigorous measures for the restoration of these obstructed rivers and harbors to unobstructed navigation.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant
Charles Seymour
McConsul



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 15-1885

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. S. Adee,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

*American trade-extension
in China and the East.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Best means of extending
American commerce in
China and the East.*

Copies for publication

7

No. 75

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 15, 1898

Mr. Secretary

United States Dept. of State

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to state to you that, having very carefully investigated the means by which trade between European Countries and Eastern Asia is kept abreast of trade between the United States of America and the far East, it has occurred to me that a few suggestions might be offered as to the best means of extending American Commerce, not only with China, but along the Coast between the Straits and Japan.

Numerically, British merchants have the advantage over all other foreign merchants and traders; and many of them are actually young men who have had sound business training in Great Britain; and came out to China, measurably, under the auspices of strong commercial establishments in England and Scotland, or established firms in the East having intimate connections with wealthy houses in Great Britain.

In a majority of cases, these British merchants in the East are so thoroughly identified with the interests of British commerce, that they cannot be expected to favor the commerce of other countries.

15

Germans have been remarkably
 successful in business both
 in establishing commercial interests,
 which are vigorously promoted
 by what seems to be something
 of the nature of Co-Operation,
 and by established men on the part
 of consular officials who keep
 the German Government and
 people of Germany informed
 concerning opportunities for
 the extension of traffic between
 Germany and China.

The necessities of the scheme
 of trade-extension in the East
 by foreigners are such that
 no Country can hope to share
 in this Commerce unless it is
 strongly represented in business circles.

4 /

With my despatch numbered 58, dated November 19. 1884, I sent to the Department of State specimens of Cotton Cloth, manufactured in Europe, and sold in China, as American goods. There may be, and doubtless are, other commodities similarly treated. The fact alone is a convenience that in order to effect sales there was an advantage gained by the representation that these European goods were of American production. Now, the most effectual method or means of getting the full benefit of this favorable opinion in regard to American Cotton goods is to have them sold by Americans who will visit all of the Chinese ports with their

1.

And the best means of doing this is by co-operation of half a dozen or more American firms, in as many branches of trade, in maintaining an American steamer of from 300 to 500 tons, stocked with goods, for sale and delivery to the Chinese shop-keepers, traders, and Compradore-shops where supplies are kept and sold, of merchandise of American production; with a certainty that visits of this kind will be repeated quarterly or oftener; which would soon establish an understanding that goods will be as represented; and that these opportunities of buying them from first hands will insure the greatest possible margin of profit.

By receiving fresh supplies of the goods thus sold, from time to time, by steamship arriving at Yokohama or Hong Kong, one very important point would be gained - viz: exemption from losses by perishable goods in large shipments.

One of the chief difficulties in regard to effecting sales of American commodities that are soon injured in tropical climate would thus be avoided.

If a large consignment or shipment of hams, bacon, cheese, butter, canned goods, ~~as is made~~ to the "Orient", there is certain to be a considerable per centage of loss; and the consumers are not certain whether there are fresh or old goods.

2

That is the reason why the
 High Commission in London is fairly
 supplied in London, and the fact
 on the Chinese Coast, are compared
 to all known at 35¢ to 45¢ per
 pound; bacon at 35¢ to 40¢ per
 pound; cheese at 45¢; butter
 at 60¢; and many other similar
 commodities at twice or three times
 in America.

During the rainy season, too,
 cloths, and similar merchandise,
 become damaged by moisture and
 mildew, in these Eastern countries.

There are many advantages to be
 gained from this direct and regular
 system of bringing American goods
 new and fresh to the dealers,
 without the intervention of "outsiders".

8

The cost of maintaining an
 steam-bulk of the capacity
 suggested (300 to 500 tons) would
 be smaller than that of any ship
 now in any one port, and when
 in motion, going from one port
 to another, transportation would
 be inexpensive, for fuel, &c., of
 which only from four to five
 tons of coal per day would be required.

Two experienced seamen
 of the better class of "Commercial
 Traders", with a careful "porter"
 to attend to cargo, would be needed
 Arrangements for the approach
 of such a craft would be received
 by traders as notice to prepare
 for business; and soon there would
 be established commerce of mutual value.

59

It might, and probably would be
advantageous, and profitable, to secure
at each port the assistance of an
established Chinese Commissionaire,
of known reputation for prudence
and fidelity, to have charge of all matters
in relation to credits, by having them
guaranteed; for a small commission,
all debts incurred by purchases of
approved wharves and houses.

It hints as to the manner of doing
business by "smart methods" in
business among Chinese should
be noticed in the choice of laborers.

As a rule, and with very few exceptions,
a business Chinese man abhors surprises.
He is disturbed, or loses confidence,
if he discovers any tendency to cunning,
cuteness, or out-straining in business.

107

In business transactions the Chinese will not be induced to buy goods from a flippant talker. They want no jokes in business. When they offer goods for sale, they avoid much praise and seem to have confidence in men who are of quiet manners, and have the appearance of calmness and sincerity.

This is so much in contrast with the requisites of salesmen in Europe and America that I mention it as a point on which success might turn in an enterprise of the nature suggested for extension of American trade in the East.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Seymour

U.S. Consul



re Jul 31/85
No. 76



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 17 - 1885

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

*Hon. A. A. Alden,
Third Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

Shoe and Leather Circular.

SYNOPSIS.

Copied, November 1885

No. 7

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 17th 1885

Mr. Schuchler

Third St. Dept. of State

Washington D.C.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt this evening of the Department of State Circular of April 8. 1885, requiring information about shoe and leather business, and in reply have to inform that the great mass of natives in Canton and Southern China go barefooted throughout the year; and the better dressed classes of natives wear shoes or boots in which very little leather is used, and then only as soles; which are also of felt, and mud.

When the labourer is at work that requires protection for his feet against rough ground and stones, the article worn is usually in the form of a sandal, and sometimes it is merely a piece of board of the length and width of the foot, to which it clings by means of a strap fastened like a loop to the board sole, and passing over the foot below the instep. Another kind of sandal is made of the coarse bark cordage, fastened to the foot by strings.

The middle class of natives, such as shop-keepers, house servants in employ of "mill-to-do" natives and foreigners, generally wear a low shoe, the sole of which is wood, or felt, or leather; the sides and tops being of cloth, in which bright colored figures are worked.

C

If a more elaborate article is used, in the form of a boot, the leg of the boot is usually of cloth - usually cloth of Cotton, sometimes white, often blue, or black.

The officials and Mandarins of some pretensions adopt a higher style of boot, made of black silk or woven cloth, felt or leather soles, and being sufficiently large high and loose in the legs to admit of carrying papers, letters, manuscripts, or documents which are to be referred to in connection with the business on which they are engaged.

About a dozen shoemakers are employed in Canton to make and repair shoes for foreigners, who wear leather. British and French shoes are sold in Hong Kong.

✓
Leather is not mentioned in the published lists of imports at Canton, or in China; and is not among the exports of China, although I find Canton exported leather in 1884 to the value of about \$ 2,500,000.

When boots and shoes are mentioned among imports or exports in Chinese Customs Returns, it must be understood they are of the kinds herein described; and leatheren boots and shoes are not used.

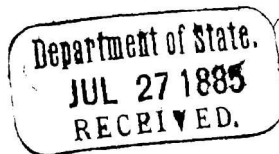
I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul.

Recd. June 31/85 L. H. Clair

No. 77



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 18th 1885

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul.

TO

Hon. A. S. Alden,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

*Transmitting Copy of Dispatch
to the Viceroy at Canton in
regard to Peace and Navigation.*

SYNOPSIS.

No. 77

United States Consulate, Canton, China..

June 18. 1885

Mr. A. A. Phelps.

Third Nat. Bldg. of State
Washington D. C.

Sir,

I have the honor to hand you herewith
attached (marked A.) Copy of a dispatch
sent by me this day to His Excellency, the
German Consul of the Port of Swatow, in regard
to the restoration of peace between China
and France, and the navigation of Canton River.
The navigation of this River is not only made
hazardous by the various systems (and the
lack of systems) of torpedo defenses,
deposited by experienced and rival contractors,
assisted by inexperienced natives who
are left in charge; but the navigation is

subject to conditions that seriously obstruct the passage of steamships, in respect to hours; and also in regard to fees and maintenance of torpedo-pilots, under the direction of the authorities.

The Imperial Commissioner, Chang, in command of the defensive operation in Southern China, with head quarters at Canton, is known throughout China as an exceedingly intolerant official, who makes no concealment of his hatred to foreigners; and the Viceroy, or General General, "Chang Chih-ting", is not at all friendly to foreigners. Thus it may be necessary to have the command of the Imperial government upon these officials to restore the river navigation. I inform the U.S. Legation as above. I am, Sir,
 Your obedient servant
 Charles Seymour,
 U.S. Consul

(Copy) "A"

Consulate of the United States of America.

Canton, China, June 18th 1885—

To His Excellency, Chang,

Viceroy of the Two Luangs, Canton.

Sir: The American Consul has the honor to inform His Excellency, the Governor General of the Two Luangs that throughout the World the impression is prevalent that a Treaty of Peace has been concluded between the Governments of China and France, and the fact has been proclaimed through the Governor of Hong Kong, in the withdrawal, by direction of the British Government, of all restrictions growing out of the recent war between France and China; and also through the Consulate General of France at Shanghai, by the French Government.

In the meantime no public or official announcement of the restoration of peace between China and France has been proclaimed by the Chinese Authorities at Canton; and Commerce is yet subjected to the annoyances, inconveniences, restrictions, torpedo-pilots, and hazards of war, by torpedoes and other obstructions to navigation, on the Canton River, between Canton and the sea.

The American Consul very respectfully suggests to His Excellency, the Governor General of the Two Luangs, that it is desirable, in the interests of inter-national Commerce, and to avoid the possibility of misunderstanding, that some authentic announcement in regard to the restoration of Peace, and unobstructed navigation, may soon be made. This suggestion is offered at the instance of interested American citizens.

The American Consul avails himself of this opportunity to renew assurances of highest esteem; with compliments and cord.

Charles Seymour,
United States Consul.



No. 78

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 19 1885

Recd.

and Aug 21 85

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul.

TO

Hon. A. A. Alder.

Third Assistant Secretary of State.

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Constable.

SYNOPSIS.

Facts for consideration as to
continuance of Constable.

No. 78

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 19th 1895

W. A. A. A.

The Sec. of State.

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Circular from the Department of State, dated April 28th 1895, in regard to prisons, Court-houses, marshals and constables, which shall have strict observance and compliance.

It is proper, however, that you should be made fully acquainted with the circumstances, which would seem to justify the continuance of the small allowance of three hundred dollars per annum for Constable at the Canton Consulate, if appropriations admit of such an expenditure.

2

Canton is unquestionably one of the most
 turbulent localities on the Globe, and has
 no successful competitor among ~~cities~~
 of China for the continuous and frequency
 of riotous outrages, and especially where
 the slightest provocation is offered by
 foreigners, who are too often the aggressors.
 Among the turbulent elements which
 require greatest watchfulness are sailors
 and seamen of foreign ships and "Men-
 of-War" in port, ostensibly, to procure order.
 At the present time, from one hundred to two hundred
 seamen belonging to American ships
 in port, there are certainly not many
 persons among them who can pass every
 opportunity to obtain intoxicating liquors
 from the liquor shops and dealers in the
 immediate proximity or vicinity of the
 Foreign Community, or "Shamian".

See

When several "Men-of-war" are in port, there are certain to be among five hundred sailors and one hundred foreigners who are ready and desire to have a drunken polio, which is very likely to wind up with a fight.

The control or jurisdiction of the officers of their respective ships is not felt as a restraining force on shore; and the small local police force of a dozen men on Shaimien is inadequate to the management of the drunken and disorderly sailors, without the aid of the Constables duly authorized by the Consuls to prevent the sailors from passing through the gates at the two bridges between Shaimien and the City to purchase supplies of very inferior intoxicants from Chinese.

4/

Constables, with full pay, are employed constantly by the British and German Consulates; and when the French Consulate is in operation, it has a small military guard.

Collisions between natives and Shanghai and sailors from American "Men-of-War" in port, have often been averted by the vigilance of the Constable of this United States Consulate; who, being chief of the Shanghai police, only having the small salary of nine hundred dollars per annum, has, in consideration of three hundred dollars per annum from this Consulate, carefully restrained turbulent American sailors from frequenting vile liquor haunts, and from doing violence to natives, who meet quickly for resistance and riot.

(at)

This Constable is personally a "police force" in himself - being a very large, athletic, resolute, and sober Swede, who has been a police-officer in Hong Kong and on Shanghai for the past fifteen years; and was formerly a sailor or mate on sailing packets between New York and Liverpool.

Respectfully recommending, that, in view of the peculiar circumstances of the case, and his usefulness in preventing disturbances between natives and American sailors and seamen, Charles Linberg be retained and continued as Constable of this Consulate;

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour
W. L. Counsel.



Prosser
Aug 17 '88

Lt. Col.

No. 79

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul.

TO

Hon. A. A. Mee.

Third Assistant Secretary of State.

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Flood and inundation.

SYNOPSIS.

No. 79

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 27th 1885

~~Rev. Mr. [illegible]~~

Chief Asst. Sec. of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that "the rainy season" of 1885, which commenced about the first of March, and continued the greater portion of March and April, followed by frequent and copious showers during May, culminated, after extraordinary rains during the greater part of the first twenty days of June, in a flood or freshet along the ~~tributaries~~ and valleys of the Canton River, causing inundation of large tracts of country above, and about Canton.

17
An American Missionary, recently returned from an extensive tour through Southern China, reported that the rice fields are so flooded as to give the appearance of lakes fifteen miles in width, above Canton a distance of fifty to one hundred miles.

The full extent of injuries to crops and property is not ascertained, but sufficient is known to admit of no doubt that the ^{first} rice crop has been very seriously damaged, and that much loss has been sustained by the inhabitants residing on low lands.

It is believed that many lives have been lost, and the numbers lost are variously estimated from one thousand to ten thousand persons.

C

Canton has experienced during
 the past week an inundation
 of some severity, which the
 inhabitants submitted to with
 remarkable and praiseworthy
 patience, fortitude, and resource.
 The water in considerable portions
 of the City and streets of Canton
 was from two to four feet
 deep. Business was ⁱⁿ generally
 suspended. The Cook-houses,
 and lower floors of shops and
 dwellings were submerged.
 Communication could only be
 kept up by means of small boats
 through the streets of the City.

All supplies of food have been
 scarce; and great suffering
 has been experienced, especially
 by poor people who could not hire boats.

Measures of relief are now being adopted by the wealthy class of Chinese men, and Mandarins, for the destitute sufferers in the country districts; and about ten thousand dollars have already been raised for that purpose.

The older residents (natives) say no such flood has been known for half a century.

A similar flood occurred about fifty years ago.

A portion of "Shamien", where the foreigners have resided for twenty years, has been submerged.

The health of the people generally at and about Canton is better than it was a month ago; and no epidemic now prevails.

As one of the most noteworthy features of the rainy season of 1885 in Southern China is the quantity of water-fall in a certain time, it may be stated that during the terrific rain storms which visited this country during the present month, the recorded fall of water between 10 o'clock A.M. of Friday, June 12th, and 10 o'clock A.M. of Saturday, June 13th at Canton and Hong Kong, was 14.12 inches.

It is proper to make record of this noteworthy flood as one of the events of modern times.

I make no suggestion as to relief, as token of sympathy, for the distressed Chinamen at and about Canton; but it is certainly a case where benevolence would find ample scope.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Charles Seymour
U.S. Consul.

